

THE HISTORY  
OF  
NORTH ORANGE

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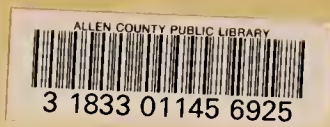
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History of North Orange, Massachusetts, Including Leading <sup>c</sup>



Events from the First Organization of Orange, 1781--1924

Published By North Orange Reunion Association





# THE "OLD SENTINEL" SPEAKS

By HELEN KENDALL SANDERSON

What have you seen O, Sentinel Tree?  
What have you heard? Pray tell it to me.

Unbroken forest from valley to hill,  
About me, wild animals roamed at will.  
The moose and the deer were plenty to see,  
Wild turkeys and pigeons were sheltered by me  
I heard the eagle go screeching away  
And the wolf go snarling after its prey.  
I've seen the savage on this lone trail  
With scalps in his belt that told a sad tale.

I soon saw a path that the white man blazed  
And on their log cabins I oft have gazed,  
The smoke of their clearings floated to me  
And their ovens outside I soon did see.  
The sentinel climbed in my branches high  
To see if the "Redskins" were lurking nigh;  
The squaw, unaware in my shade drew near  
Her pappoose to feed without any fear.

The rippling water soon took on a roar  
As a mill with a dam obstructed the shore,  
And bridges began to cover the streams  
Which the settlers crossed o'er with rattling teams.  
Down a shadowy streamlet wild and lone,  
I heard Indians making the mortar stone;  
It is there to-day, though hidden by brush,  
Where they pounded corn for their daily mush.

Before the water course boasted name,  
I watched it rippling along just the same;  
Before even Miller was born I ween,  
I saw the river—the prettiest seen.  
Silver Lake is lovely, though partly hid,  
I saw it before even Babcock did.  
Old Tully was grand, e'er it had any name;  
Before the Tullys to live near it came.

I saw a skirmish when a white man fell  
And soon filled a grave in a lonely dell,  
A city white is now peopled around  
Too bad, no record of this has been found.  
An ancient fort which served the settlers well  
Was near the old road where my sight could dwell.  
Down in the village, near the public inn,  
And on "High Knob," two other forts have been.



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I once belonged to Athol township old,  
But now, in North Orange I am enrolled.  
I saw the signal fires from hill to hill  
Rouse up the settlers, and with anger fill.  
I saw the Minutemen gather in haste  
And their long journey they quickly traced,  
While women defending their homes from harm,  
Cheerfully lifted the work of the farm.

My highest branches, I have a notion  
Can just discern the Atlantic ocean,  
But when British warships to Boston came  
Smoke soon obscured my sight of the same.  
I saw a wondrous sight—as down the road  
Four score yoke of oxen drew their load.  
From Ticonderog', on forty two sleds  
Came cannon and things to fight the "Reds."

Gen'ral Knox was sent there for these supplies  
For Washington needed them, I surmise.  
To Springfield they passed, fresh oxen to find,  
Then on to Cambridge where they were assigned.  
But best I remember the glad jubilation—  
The "Fourth of July" of the nation.

The "Dark Day" of 1780 I saw,  
The birds did not sing, the crows did not caw,  
But counted the day as part of the night  
While the people were very much filled with fright.  
Then big covered teams to market were sent  
And cattle and sheep in droves there went.  
The towns had driveways, sometimes painted red,  
Where loads could be housed and the horses fed.

I saw the Irishmen shoveling sand  
Who lived in sod houses near at hand;  
Soon shriek of the engine was borne to me  
And a railroad then puffed its way to B.  
I've seen the lightning play many a prank,  
On the old Town Hall its bolts often sank;  
I saw one descend in the darkest night  
To Chestnut Hill on Haven's barn to light.



MARTHA E. WARD

Martha Eugenia Ward, daughter of Frederick and Martha Wright Abbott, was born in North Reading, Massachusetts, February 11, 1848. She received her education in the schools of Boston and the Salem Normal School, being graduated from the advanced course of the latter in 1867. In 1866 she moved with her parents to Lynn, Massachusetts, where she taught school for six years. She has since made her home there. She was married on August 20, 1874 to Henry Albee Ward of Lynn. For many years, Mr. and Mrs. Ward have been spending their summers in North Orange, and Mrs. Ward has taken a keen interest in the community, appreciating its charms and sturdy heritage.

At a meeting of the North Orange Reunion Association held September 5, 1923, it was voted to authorize the publication of an historical book to serve as a memorial to its efforts and to the sturdy men and women of North Orange who laid the foundations of the town and builded homes from whence went sons and daughters to achieve success in many fields of endeavor. A committee consisting of Fannie M. Daniels, Martha E. Ward, A. Eddy Brooks, Roy W. French, Mary G. Prentice, Carrie M. Newton, Walter F. Ellis, Solon J. Oliver and Rev. William D. Veazie was appointed to execute this action.

In all human endeavor, individual impetus is essential to accomplishment and the seven last named members of this committee acknowledge and appreciate that element in two of its associates, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Daniels. The literary ability and interest of the former and fund of information and persistent effort of the latter, have made it possible to compile this historical resume. The book is a mute testimonial of their careful, untiring and generous effort. The articles not signed were written by Mrs. Ward. The book was arranged by Roy W. French and printed by the Enterprise and Journal of Orange.



FANNIE M. DANIELS

Fannie Morton Daniels, daughter of Moses and Mary Fay Morton, was born in North Orange, Massachusetts, January 10, 1851. She has spent all her life in North Orange and Tully. She was married to Samuel F. Daniels, a veteran of the Civil war, who died March 14, 1915. Mrs. Daniels has been secretary of the North Orange Reunion Association since 1907 and clerk of the North Orange church and parish since 1903. She is a charter member of the church. Mrs. Daniels has always been an active worker for any worthy project in the community, and this in spite of the fact that ill health during the past few years has made it difficult for her to get about. Her zeal and interest have been felt in many ways.



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ALONG "MAIN STREET"

Though it's fun to go a-straying  
Where the bands are nightly playing  
And the throngs of men and women  
Drain the cup of pleasure brimmin',  
I am glad when it is over  
That I've ceased to play the Rover.  
And when once the train starts chugging  
Towards the children I'd be hugging,  
All my thoughts and dreams are set there;  
Fast enough I cannot get there.



OVER THERE IS TULLY MOUNTAIN

## BACK HOME

By EDGAR A. GUEST

Glad to get back home again,  
Where abide the friendly men;  
Glad to see the same old scenes  
And the little house that means  
All the joys the soul has treasured —  
Glad to be where smiles aren't measured,  
Where I've blended with the gladness  
All the heart has known of sadness,  
Where some long-familiar steeple  
Marks my town of friendly people.



"OH WOODMAN SPARE THAT TREE"

Like to be where men about me  
Do not look on me to doubt me;  
Where I know the men and women,  
Know why tears some eyes are dimmin'  
Know the good folks an' the bad folks  
An' the glad folks an' the sad folks;  
Where we live with one another,  
Meanin' something to each other.  
An' I'm glad to see the steeple,  
Where the crowds aren't merely people.



UP ALONG THE COMMON

Guess I wasn't meant for bright lights,  
For the blaze of red and white lights,  
For the throngs that seem to smother  
In their selfishness, each other;  
For whenever I've been down there,  
Tramped the noisy, blatant town there,  
Always in a week I've started  
Yearning, hungering, heavy hearted,  
For the home town and its spaces  
Lit by fine and friendly faces.



LOOKING TOWARD THE TURN IN THE ROAD

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

*May this record of transitions in the life of North Orange tempt many to enter with the compiler the portals of the temple of Memory and learn how from a wilderness there grew a town fostered by men who possessed in a high degree "the characteristics of a typical American—Simplicity, Humor, Honor, Generosity, Religion." It would be impossible in a volume no larger than this to give much more than brief details of the more important changes in conditions and social customs of the town itself, but, guided by State Archives, State Records, County Records, including Probate Records and Registry of Deeds of Hampshire, Worcester and Franklin Counties; Town Records, Church Records, Post Master General's Records, Muster Rolls, State and Military Histories, Family Papers, Letters and Memories of Natives, the compiler has endeavored to give a true chronicle that will give pleasure to the reader as he lives over the past. Historical papers given at the annual Reunions are also included in the volume. For the good will shown in replies to letters of inquiry, I acknowledge my indebtedness and especially do I thank those who have generously allowed me the privilege of examining cherished family papers and letters.*

M. E. Ward.

## ORIGIN



FROM the beginning, men have moved on to better their condition, so New England's first settlers had moved on, even across the Atlantic ocean, to better their condition. These pioneers of Massachusetts Bay Colony had planted towns near the coast, consequently as new immigrants arrived, these towns soon became too congested for the pioneers, who loved *land* as well as *liberty*. Therefore, having obtained permission from the General Court, to remove, provided "they should not remove from the jurisdiction of Massachusetts," many of the inhabitants of Cambridge, Watertown, Dorchester and Roxbury, again moved on. Westward through a hundred miles of wilderness they made their way to the Connecticut, that "long, fresh, rich river" of which they had received such favorable reports. Dorchester people went to Windsor, Watertown people to Wethersfield, Cambridge people to Hartford and Roxbury people to Agawam, now Springfield. The settlement of Springfield was followed by that of Northampton and Hadley and by 1662 these three towns had so grown that they were constituted a county with Springfield as the shire town. Court was to be held alternately at Springfield and Northampton. The County was called Hampshire\* and included that large section of land extending from "New York on the West into the present County of Worcester on the East and occupying throughout that distance the entire width of Massachusetts." In short, the whole of western Massachusetts came within the limits of Hampshire County. Although the century following the settlement of Springfield brought toil, hardships and the tragedy of Indian warfare to the colonists, settlements continued to be made in the county. Along the Connecticut, the settlements and the new towns laid out extended as far north as Northfield. One of those new towns is now Warwick.

In the meantime the eastern colonists of the Province had pushed their settlements westward and in 1731, some flourishing towns bordering Hampshire's indefinite eastern boundary, were, together with adjoining land, set off as a

\* Parts of Hampshire and Worcester Counties were included in the District of Orange.

distinct county named Worcester. It was with some doubt as to the wisdom of his course that Governor Belcher signed the Act constituting Worcester County, for besides the thirteen organized towns in the new County, there was much unsettled land, mostly "hill country," thought undesirable for new settlements. There were but few valleys. In one of these, the valley of the Pequoiag, now Millers River, there was opened in the year following the erection of Worcester County, a new town "of the contents of 6 miles square," and June 26, 1734, at a meeting in Concord, the Proprietors drew their house lots in the new town of Pequoiag.

One of the first localities settled was on West Pequoiag Hill in the northwestern part of the town. Here the settlers laid out a long street, (Orange street), 8 rods wide, a little east of the top of the hill and here, near where the Sentinel Elm stands, the settlers built a fort to guard against the attacks of the Indians. The Nipmucks, Indians who were the original owners of the land out of which Worcester County was made, still lingered near the Pequoiag river; also, near the settlement, passed the trail down which came bands of marauding Indians from Canada. The settlers lived in constant fear of the red men, but history records the killing by Indians of but one person in Pequoiag. This person was Mr. Ezekiel Wallingford, one of the Proprietors, who, we are told, was living in the fort in 1746. In his Centennial Address, Rev. S. F. Clarke says: "Supposing he heard bears in his cornfield, Mr. Wallingford went out to watch, but he soon discovered that the Indians had deceived him by imitating the noise of bears in the corn and were surrounding him. He immediately turned and attempted to regain the fort about 100 rods distant, but in passing a fence, he was struck by a musket ball which fractured his thigh. The tomahawk and scalping knife put an instant end to his life August 17, 1746." Mr. Wallingford was buried in Mount Pleasant cemetery, Athol.

Mr. Wallingford left a wife, Lydia, and five children. The family soon removed to Concord, Massachusetts. Dr. J. Q. Adams of Marengo, Illinois, once gave an interesting account of the driving of Wallingford's stock to Concord by Jason Babcock. "The distance from Pequoiag to Concord was perhaps 60 or 70 miles as the roads were then traveled and Mr. Babcock received for his service the sum of four pounds, old tenor. The said stock was comprised of the following described, viz: One farrow cow, valued at 11 pounds; one red heifer, coming



3, at 9 pounds; one red steer, coming 3, at 7 pounds, 10 shillings; one red steer, coming 2, at 5 pounds; one red cow at 10 pounds." Widow Lydia married Ebenezer Harris prior to March 2, 1748. As Mr. Wallingford's debts exceeded his personal estate, a petition was entered for the right to sell his land for the "Payment of his debts and the bringing up of his children." In the Acts and Resolves of 1752 it is recorded that "Ebenezer Harris of Lancaster and Lydia are empowered to make sale of said lands" and that the "produce thereof (after the payment of Debts and Taxes due thereon) be applied to the benefit of the within named Wallingford's children." The right to Wallingford's land was bought by Ichabod Dexter.

## The First Meeting House

1762, March 6, Pequoting was incorporated as a town with the name of Athol. The Act of Incorporation states that "this Plantation is bounded Northerly on the Plantations of Royashire and Mount-grace." 1763, "Mount-grace," or Gardner's Canada, became the town of Warwick; 1765, Royashire became the town of Royalston. If, mentally, we re-establish the old boundary lines of Athol, Warwick and Royalston, we shall find the site of the Meeting-house and the land on the opposite side of the road as far south as the Blodgett homestead, within the limits of Warwick; the Blodgett homestead and the Chapel, in Athol; and the houses of Solon Oliver and Mrs. Clarence Rich, in Royalston. This mental survey gives a definite idea of where the three towns came together and suggests with what inconvenience the inhabitants of these adjacent corners, covered every Sunday the long distance between their homes and the Meeting-house in their respective towns. For the law required these people to attend meeting. Non-attendance subjected them to a complaint for delinquency or, sometimes, to a fine.

The pressure of such conditions brought about a memorable day in the annals of North Orange,—January 1, 1781,—when men from the localities just mentioned, held a meeting at the house of Benjamin Mayo in Warwick. (This house is now occupied by Adriel White's family.) At this meeting Nathan Goddard was moderator, Nehemiah Ward, clerk, and the following agreement was drawn up:

"We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the adjacent corners of Athol, Warwick and Royalston, being deeply sensible of the great disadvantage we labor under by reason of our great distance from the meeting houses of the several towns to which we belong, and expecting special advantages will accrue to each of us to build a meeting house within the bounds of Warwick, on the southeast corner of Benjamin Mayo's land near Nathan Goddard's west barn—

"Wherefore, we whose names are underwritten do covenant, promise and agree to pay to and for the purpose of building a meeting house in said place the sum affixed to each of our names in this instrument, said sums to be paid in merchantable Rye at four shillings per bushel, or Indian Corn at two shillings, eight pence per bushel, or cash equal thereto, or in timber, nails, etc., to the acceptance of the committee that we hereby appoint to receive the same.

"Moreover, we do covenant, promise and agree that Messrs. John Stow, Edward Ward, Nathan Goddard, Ebenezer Foskett and Benjamin Mayo shall be Committee of Trustees to make a plan of said Meeting House, and oversee the work thereof, and set to each subscriber his share of work, or preparing articles needful for said building.

"Moreover, the subscribers do covenant, promise and agree that the said Meeting House is built and intended for a Congregational Church and Society to worship in; nevertheless, we do hereby covenant, promise and agree that whenever there shall be a Town, District or Parish set off by the General Court in this

place then the said House shall be free for all the inhabitants thereof to hold all their legal, Town, District, or Parish meetings in."

It was voted the same day that the house should stand on "land lying between the properties of Benjamin Mayo and Nathan Goddard." It was also voted that each of these men should be paid ten dollars for his land. It was decided that the building should be 46 feet in length and 36 feet in width. The principal feature was of course the pulpit with the sounding board overhead. A gallery was built on each of the four sides, the gallery over the pulpit being reserved for the singers and players upon the base viol and violin. In the galleries were twenty pews; on the floor there were thirty-four box pews. The stairs to the gallery and singers' seats, ascended from the porch in front of this ordinary wooden building. There was no belfry.

1782, March 31, the Meeting-house was dedicated. The sermon, "the first Sermon preached in said House," was delivered "from the 133d Psalm by the Rev. Emerson Foster."

1782, November 14, an Ecclesiastical Convention convened at the house of Benjamin Mayo. "After the Council, services were held in the meeting-house and the people declared to be a regular incorporated Church of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and they received the right hand of fellowship from the Rev. Mr. Reed," pastor in Warwick.

18 men and 13 women constituted the original church. Only the male members, Nathan Goddard, David Goddard, Hananiah Temple, Edward Ward, Benjamin Mayo, Ebenezer Foskett, Ebenezer Goddard, Asa Goddard, Nathan Goddard, Jr., Benjamin Woods, Jason Harrington, Ephraim Cady, Jr., Nathaniel Woodcock, Ephraim Cady, John Ford, Ephraim Smith, Jonathan Ward and Nehemiah Ward,—signed the covenant.

1782, December 12, Rev. Emerson Foster was installed Pastor, the church being called the Church of Christ in South Warwick. The name Orange does not occur on the Society records until 1785, March 23. Mr. Foster's salary was to be 60 pounds a year, the first two years, 65 pounds the third year and after that 70 pounds a year during his ministry in this place. It was also voted to give Mr. Foster 100 pounds settlement and "25 cords of good sizable fire wood, 8 feet long, delivered at Mr. Foster's dwelling house." "For a time the Pastor and Church in this place abode in peace," say the old records, but for various reasons, dissatisfaction with the Pastor arose and 1790, May 13, the parish voted to concur with the church in calling a council to dismiss Mr. Foster. From this time until 1822 the Society had no settled Pastor and but little preaching.

1800. The General Convention of Universalists met in the Church, with Hosea Ballou, "the great leader of that denomination," as clerk.

1811. It was voted to allow the "Universal Society" to worship in the Meeting-house at such times as it is not occupied by the Congregational Society. The following anecdote shows the spirit of the times. An orthodox woman, a member of the original church, went to a morning service, ignorant of the fact that a Universalist preacher was going to occupy the pulpit that Sunday. In the tavern parlor where many went to eat lunch between services, she said, "Who is the young minister? It was the varry best sermon I ever heerd in my life." When told the minister was a "Univarsaler," she exclaimed, "The filthy stuff! It was not fit for the pigs to hear," and she immediately put up her half-eaten lunch and went home.

During the 32 years following Mr. Foster's dismissal many had drifted from the faith of the fathers who founded the church. Many had become Unitarian in belief but it was voted to unite with the Universalists in raising a subscription for the support of preaching and 1822, November 28, the Rev. Joshua Chandler, a Unitarian minister, was installed Pastor, the Council meeting

at the house of Calvin Mayo. The church was still Congregational in the matter of form and government, but it was no longer Orthodox Congregational; it had become Unitarian Congregational.\* The first members of this Society were Capt. Ebenezer Goddard and wife, Anna Temple, Calvin Mayo and wife, Oliver Ward, Sally Ward, Deacon Daniel Ward and wife, Mrs. Ebenezer Cheney, Nathan Ward, Mrs. Solomon Gates, Mrs. Hannah Goddard, Miss Rebecca Wright and Deacon Nathan Cheney and wife. 1827, October, Mr. Chandler was dismissed by mutual agreement. Then follows quite "a gap in parish records."

1832. "The church was turned one quarter around so that the ends were north and south instead of east and west, as at first built. The doors were re-



NORTH ORANGE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
BUILT IN 1781

moved from the square box pews, the pews remodeled and put in facing the entrance with the pulpit at the south end and the singers in the gallery over the minister's head.

1843. The Rev. Levi Ballou, a Universalist minister, began to preach to both Universalists and Unitarians. In 1844 the two denominations united, and have since worshiped together. Mr. Ballou's pastorate continued for 19 years and it is said of him that "as a neighbor, friend, companion, citizen, pastor, he wore through all these years the white flower of a blameless life." From the close of Mr. Ballou's pastorate in 1862 there was no settled minister until 1865.

\* The Unitarian Churches usually fell heir to the Parish Church in most of the eastern Massachusetts parishes when there was a division between the liberal and orthodox parties.

From time to time different ministers have supplied the pulpit; the following list includes only the names of *settled* ministers:

Rev. W. W. Hooper, 1865, served a little over four years	Rev. Charles Conklin, 1892—1893
Rev. Alanson Scott, about a year and a half	Rev. Donald Fraser, 1894—1897
Rev. J. H. Willis, three years	Rev. A. N. Blackford, 1897—1904
Rev. J. E. Davenport, three years	Rev. J. L. Greene, 1905—1907
Rev. W. H. Jewell, two years	Rev. L. C. Manchester, Mar.-Nov., 1910
Rev. E. J. Chaffee, 1879—1882	Rev. C. W. Squires, 1911—1912
Rev. O. K. Crosby, 1883—1886	Rev. Paul Weller, 1913—1916
Rev. E. B. Barber, 1886—1889	Rev. G. L. Mason, 1916—1923
Rev. C. L. Paddock, 1889—1891	Rev. C. F. McIntire 1923—
Rev. G. H. Harris, 1891—1892	

1865. Fourteen feet were added to the north end of the church, the gallery was taken down, the singers' seats removed to the north end of the church and a floor put in over the audience room; the upper room thus formed was finished off as the Parish Hall.

1868. By a special act of legislation the name of the society organization was changed from "First Congregational Parish and Society of Orange," to "The Second Universalist Society of Orange."

1875. New windows were placed in the meeting-house, the Ladies' Sewing Society bearing the expense of purchase and placing of the windows.

1876, March. The Society came into possession of the Phineas Battle Fund, bequeathed by Mr. Phineas Battle who died July 11, 1874. The 10th clause of Mr. Battle's will reads as follows: "the residue of my estate both real and personal and not otherwise disposed of in this will, I design as a perpetual fund to be safely invested and the interest arising therefrom to be equally divided and one moiety thereof paid annually to my said trustee, to each of the two religious societies known as the first and second Universalist society in Orange, to be applied to the support of the Gospel in said societies according to the tenets entertained by the Universalist denomination. The sum left was \$25,532.92.

The same year, Mr. F. E. Goddard gave the Society a clock. The money for placing the clock on the tower was raised by subscription, Mrs. Divine Perry, a former resident of North Orange, kindly contributing \$25.

1878, January 5. The Society voted to build a Parsonage. Mr. Nathaniel C. Forrester gave land from his farm for the site of the building. Some members of the Society donated money (\$459) towards the expense of the new building, others gave work and still others gave lumber and other building material. The builders,—Dexter and Parmenter,—of Athol received \$576.15 for their work. The entire cost of the Parsonage was \$939.14. By resorting to different ways of raising money, the Society soon paid its debt.

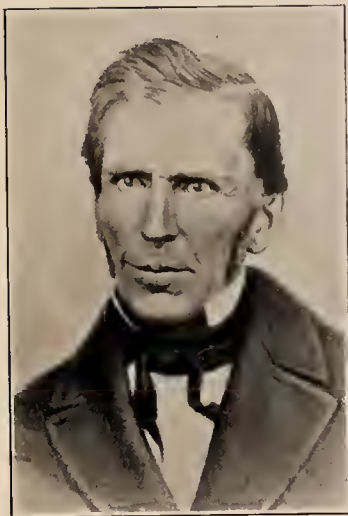
1878, May 16. Less than one hundred years had passed since this parish began its existence, yet this date notes the *third* church organization during this period,—the organization of "the Second Universalist Church of Orange," with 18 members, of whom only six are now living,—Mrs. Elsie White, Mrs. Fannie M. Daniels, Mrs. Della Gale Moore, Lucius Johnson of Hartford, Conn., Mrs. Carrie Stowell Jewell and Mrs. Mary Stowell Gourlay, both of Athol.

1879. Exterior repairs including new blinds and a slated roof were made; one half of the expense was generously donated by Mr. F. E. Goddard.

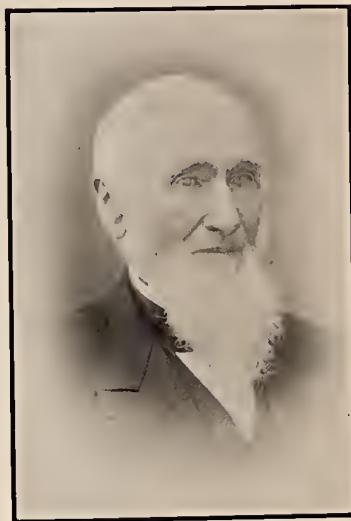
1896, May 25. Women were allowed to become voting members of the Society. In the same year a partition was put across the north end of the auditorium in order to make a church parlor.



UNIVERSALIST MINISTERS OF NORTH ORANGE FROM 1843 TO 1905



REV. LEVI BALLOU  
1843-1862



REV. WM. HOOPER  
1865-1869



REV. ALANSON SCOTT  
1869-1871



REV. J. H. WILLIS  
1871-1875



REV. J. E. DAVENPORT  
1875-1878



REV. W. H. JEWELL  
1878-1879

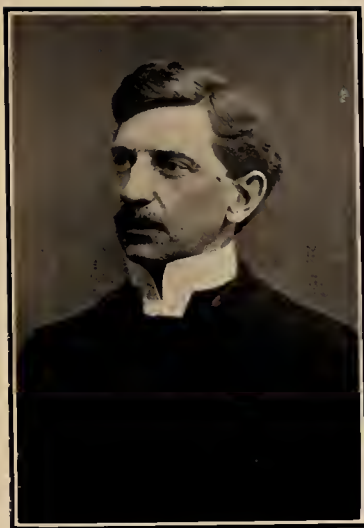


REV. E. J. CHAFFEE  
1879-1882





REV. O. K. CROSBY  
1883-1886



REV. E. B. BARBER  
1886-1888

1906, May 11. The church celebrated its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary, Rev. Charles Conklin, D. D., giving the Historical Address.

1908, July 3. The Martha Albee Fund was received. Mrs. Albee who died in Orange February 9, 1907, was a native and for many years a resident of North Orange, living after her marriage to Admiral Ward (her first husband), in the house now occupied by William E. Blackmer. She was always deeply interested in this Society even after her removal to Orange where she married Mr. Albee. This continued interest is shown by the eighth clause of her will,—“I give and bequeath to the Universalist Society at North Orange in this town the sum of one thousand dollars to be deposited by said Society in some Savings Bank in the state, the income thereof only to be used to pay for preaching according to the tenets of the Universalist faith.”

1913, March 29. It was voted to take the church parlor for a dining-room; also to build at the north end of the meetinghouse an addition to be used as a kitchen. The land for this addition was given by Levi P. Cheney, nephew of Mrs. F. E. Goddard. The cost of building the addition was \$481.73.

There are at present 95 members of the Parish, 57 members having died since 1861.

Four ministers have originated from this Parish,—Rev. Jonathan Forrester, D. D., Rev. Sumner Ellis, D. D., Rev. William Ballou, Rev. Clifford D. Newton.

Mrs. C. B. Whittemore, great granddaughter of Abijah Marble, has in her possession the original deed given by John Shepardson, Royalston, to Abijah Marble, Orange, of one “half Pew Situate and being in the Meeting house in Orange aforesaid it being half of the Pew on the lower floor next to the front door on the West side.” The sum paid was five dollars. The other half of the pew was owned by Henry Adams. The deed bears the date September 21, 1812.

## The Meeting-house Bell

For years we have heard the bell in the tower above us speak for itself. It has never been afraid to put in a word on all matters of public importance. Ringing clear, it has summoned the people to meeting, joyfully it has voiced festivity, triumphantly it has pealed for victory, brazenly it has clanged the note of alarm, mournfully it has bewailed the dead and insistently it has “given a tongue to time.” Thus closely associated with the most joyous and the saddest feelings of mankind, its tones awaken a throng of memories, so on this day of memories when we come back to find the old thoughts and the old dreams, it seems fitting to review the life of the present occupant of the tower, and that of its two predecessors as well.

The Bible command reads: “And thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron. And thou shalt make the robe of the ephod all of blue, and beneath on the hem of it, thou shalt make pomegranates and bells of gold between them round about. And it shall be upon Aaron to minister and his sound shall be heard when he goeth in unto the holy place before the Lord and when he cometh out.” From biblical times when Aaron and other priests wore golden bells suspended from their robes, onward to the present, bells have been associated with religious ceremonies and have thus acquired a kind of sacred character.

For many years after the introduction of bells into Europe, bell foundries there were set up in religious houses, and, as the abbots, priors and frequently the bishops were the master-manufacturers, a religious character was given to the process of bell-founding. The brethren stood ranged round the furnaces, we are told, the 150th Psalm was chanted and the Almighty was invoked to overshadow the molten metal with His power and bless the work for the honor



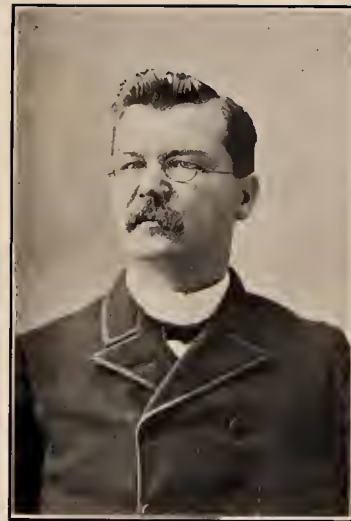
REV. C. L. PADDOCK  
1889-1891



REV. GEO. H. HARRIS  
1891-1892



REV. C. CONKLIN, D. D.  
1892-1893



REV. DONALD FRASER  
1894-1897

of the saint to whom it was dedicated. Indicating the high standard which has always been these bell-founders', are the following lines from Schiller's poem, "The Casting of the Bell":

"The thoughtless man we must despise,  
Who disregards the thing he shapes.  
This forms a man's chief attribute,  
And Reason is to him assigned,  
That what his hand may execute,  
Within his heart, too, he should find."

After the casting, the bell was named. Just as children were christened, so the bell was christened. It was taken to the font, sprinkled with water and covered with a white garment. The service was attended with great pomp and ceremony. In later years Protestants abolished this usage and at one time swung to the other extreme for they, at the festival observed when new bells were hung, fixed the bell bottom upward and filled it with punch.

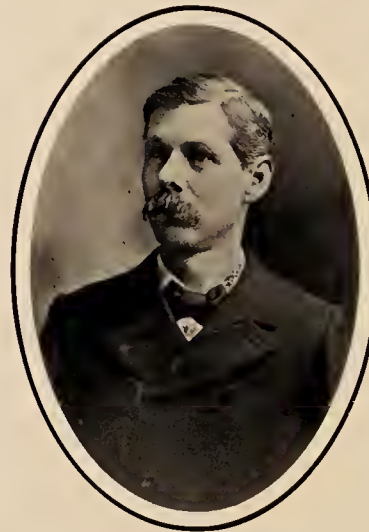
Although the existence of the bell has been continuous from early days, the development of the ancient small bell into the modern large tower bell, was slow. Not until centuries after biblical times were bells introduced into Christian churches and even then only portable hand bells were used. But they increased in size and their use spread from the continent of Europe into England and thence to New England.

The first mention of any church bell in Massachusetts occurs in the history of Cambridge in 1632. Salem had a bell as early as 1638, but most Massachusetts towns were without a bell during many years of their early settlement. The privilege of being called together by a bell was highly esteemed by the people,

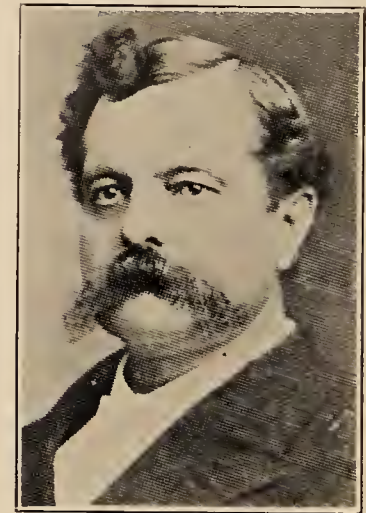
even, if, as happened in Hamilton, the bell had to hang on a pine tree near a corner of the church while the belfry was being prepared for it after its arrival from London.

In most of the towns of western Massachusetts, during their bell-less years, various methods were used to summon the people to public worship. In Greenfield and Northfield a drum gave the signal for meeting, the drummer being appointed and paid by the town. If the drummer were absent, a flag was hung out. In Montague, Shelburne and Deerfield a conch shell was blown. We wish we knew how Orange people were summoned to meeting before 1833 in which year, the Parish of Orange voted to "hang a bell in the deck of the church." The records are silent as to how the money to buy the bell was raised, but at a Parish meeting held April 19, 1834, a committee of three men,—Josiah Wheelock, Moses Morton and Nathan Ward,—was appointed to solicit subscriptions for ringing the bell, also to secure a suitable person for ringing the bell and taking care of the church for a year.

The life of this bell was short. Two years after it was hung, the records note that the broken bell together with the sum of \$63.62, was exchanged for a new bell 25 pounds heavier than the old one. The charge for conveyance of the broken bell to Boston and that of the new bell from Boston to Orange, use of ropes and other charges amounted to \$11.50, making the total money cost of the new bell \$75.12. \$77.37 had been subscribed,—\$2.25 more than was needed,—but, it was doubtful if some of the pledges would ever be paid. The committee looked over the list of subscribers and concluded that \$3.00 would cover the doubtful ones and that the \$2.25 over-subscribed, if they got it, would not more than pay for collecting it, but of how the small deficit was raised, no record is



REV. A. N. BLACKFORD  
1897-1904



REV. L. L. GREEN  
1905



made. Perhaps doubtful subscribers would have quickly responded if they could have seen inscribed on the bell these lines on a church bell in England:

"At proper times my voice I'll raise,  
And sound to my subscribers' praise."

At this time, 1835, ringing the bell and caring for the church for a year, were let out to the lowest bidder. The bid of Moses Morton, the lowest bidder, was \$15.00.

Probably church bells were at first used to summon the congregation. Later the duties of the bell became threefold, according to the old rhymes,

"To call the fold to church in time,  
We chime.  
When joy and mirth are on the wing,  
We ring.  
When we lament a departed soul,  
We toll."

The performance of the last mentioned duty was a product of the superstition that devils lay in wait to battle with good angels for the soul at the moment when it escaped from the body. It was believed that the "passing bell,"—a bell tolled for one who was dying,—together with a peal rung immediately after death, would defeat the evil spirits in their purpose and frighten them away. Gradually this custom was given up. Tolling, however, continued, but after death instead of before. A short peal was rung to signify that some mortal had put on immortality, then followed two strokes,—the signal for the death of a man, or three for a woman, or four for a young person; lastly the age was tolled.

It was in tolling the age of an old resident that the second North Orange bell cracked. "Too bad he lived so long," said one who counted the strokes, "for it has broken our bell to toll his age."

Thus another change was necessitated and in 1859, the second bell, after twenty-two years of faithful service, was replaced by the one in present use.

While in California a few years ago, Mr. Dexter learned that the cracked North Orange bell had also made a trip to the Pacific coast and was at that time in Riverside, California, in the possession of a man whose hobby was the collection of antiques, especially old bells.

Until about forty years ago this third bell was tolled after a death; then the custom ceased. There is with us today, at least one bell-ringer, Fred Worrick, who well remembers the frigid temperature of his lofty position, when in the airy belfry on a cold winter day, he tolled the age of some departed resident, or after the funeral service, struck the measured strokes that marked the departure of the funeral procession from the church.

For a number of years the bell was rung at 9 o'clock at night, perhaps not to admonish the people to keep good hours at night, but in observance of the original custom when the bell-man used to ring a bell at night and cry, "Take care of your fire and candle, be charitable to the poor and pray for the dead."

The bell was also rung at 12 o'clock noon and on one occasion gave North Orange people a foretaste of Daylight Saving. One day the bell-ringer, a clerk in Worrick's store, glanced at his watch so hastily, he mistook the hour of eleven for twelve, and promptly rang the bell. As its iron tongue pealed forth the farmer's welcome call, "Come to dinner," the men came from their work on the farm to their homes. Then great was the hurrying and scurrying among the good housewives who could not understand how they had lost an hour.

In 1876 the practice of noon and night ringing of the bell was discontinued for in the tower was placed a clock,—the gift of Franklin Goddard, the expense of

putting in the clock, —\$150 being met by the combined contributions of town and parish and a gift of \$25 from Mrs. Devine Perry. Then the bell's iron tongue ceased to warn of the flight of time, for the clock albeit so modest in demeanor that it always keeps its hands before its face, yet speaks with a loud voice as it measures the hours through day and night.

Thus one after another some customs in bell-ringing have been discontinued, but there are many others, the practice of which brings the bell into frequent use and whether the North Orange bell peals for merriment and happiness, for truth and right, or for faith in God and faith in man, may it ring clear for many a year.

## DISTRICT OF ORANGE

Action towards forming a town quickly followed the organization of the church. As early as August 30, 1781, at a parish meeting, Benjamin Wood, Nathan Goddard, Hananiah Temple, Elijah Ball and Jonathan Ward were chosen a committee to plan the new town. In October of the same year Warwick voted "to set off 4060 acres of land (as exhibited on a plan shown by Elijah Ball) with the inhabitants on the same, to be incorporated into a town with other lands from Athol, Royalston and Erving's Grant." In Athol an innovation in the custom of singing, had brought to the Athol church discord in place of the previous harmony. This want of concord increased until it led to the dismissal of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Humphreys, caused some members to withdraw from the church and so alienated a part of the town that it was ready to be separated from the parent town; the settlers in the eastern part of Erving's Grant aspired to town privileges. Did Royalston hold aloof for a time? The only occasion for this query is the record of a parish meeting held February 25, 1782 when John Ellis, Edward Ward and Jonathan Goddard were made a committee to request Royalston *again* to vote for part of their town to be incorporated into a town with part of Athol, Warwick and Ervingshire. Later Royalston set off several thousand acres for the proposed town and, in accordance with the petition of the inhabitants of the tracts mentioned above, the north-westerly part of Athol, the south-westerly part of Royalston, the south-easterly part of Warwick and certain common lands called Ervingshire were on October 15, 1783, incorporated not as a *town*, but as a *district*, named Orange in honor of William, Prince of Orange. District incorporation was probably a result of England's jealousy aroused before 1753 by the increase of towns in Massachusetts, for increase in towns meant increase in representation in the Legislature and consequently "an encroachment upon the authority of the crown." To put a stop to this, the home Government (England), instructed the Governor of Massachusetts to consent to no establishment of a new town in the province without restricting its power of sending a representative to the General Court. For many years after this, new plantations were incorporated as districts. Thus, Orange was made a district having all the powers of a town except the power of individual representation. It might vote for a representative by joining with another town and Warwick records read,—"*Voted.* That the new plantation (Orange) called South Warwick be districted to the town of Warwick with the privilege of joining with us in the choice of a representative, but to act with us in no town affairs whatever."

### The Boundaries of the New District were as follows:

Beginning on the west line of the town of Athol at Millers River, thence on said line to the road that leads from Ruggles' farms to West Hill, so-called; thence bounding on the said road including the same to the county road leading from

Athol to Warwick; thence easterly on the said road to the south line of Sherebiah Baker's land; thence on the said south line and to extend the same course to Tully River; thence northerly to the east branch of the said Tully River to Royalston line; thence easterly on said Royalston line to southeast corner of lot No. 23; thence northerly on the east line of the same lot and lot 22 dividing lot No. 26; thence westerly on the south end of lot No. 20; thence northerly on east line of lot No. 6; thence westerly on north line of same lot; thence westerly on south line of lot No. 11 to the west line of said town of Royalston; thence northerly on said town line to the northeast corner of lot No. 45 in the second division of Warwick; thence westerly to northwest corner of same lot; thence southerly to northeast corner of lot 34 to the northwest corner of the same; thence southerly to the northeast corner of lot 15; thence south including lot 13 to Warwick south line; thence south 10 degrees west, across the land of John Erving, Esq., to Miller's River; thence easterly on Miller's River to bounds first mentioned.

West Pequoiag Hill on which stands the Sentinel Elm, was the first settled part of the District. On either side of that first long street running north and south, small lots were laid out and between 1736 and 1742 were occupied to such an extent that there was quite a compact settlement comprising families bearing the familiar names of Smith, Morton, Marble, Ward, Adams, Holden, Harrington, Dexter and Wheeler.

"In 1752 a tract of 325 acres of land lying on the west side of Pequoiag, (Athol) was granted by the General Court to Rev. Benjamin Ruggles of Middleboro." This grant came within the limits of Orange District. The first settler on this tract was Joseph Lawrence who, after the French and Indian war, sold his farm to Benjamin Dexter. Previous to buying this farm which in recent years became the property of Amasa Dexter and Sylvester Davis, Benjamin Dexter had lived on the Jesse Worrick farm where he settled in 1769, at which time tradition asserts there was no house between Dexter's and the Connecticut River. In the same year, (1769) Jacob Hutchins was living on the farm adjoining that of Joseph Lawrence. Samuel Ruggles settled on the west side of this grant in 1776 and his brother Lemuel settled near him in 1780.

In 1770 Joseph Metcalf of Milford, land agent for John Erving and for Erving's heirs as well, bought of John Erving 500 acres of land lying east of Fall Hill and settled on what has been called in recent years the Red Stock farm. Saville Metcalf, Jacob French and his sons Joseph and Jacob, Capt. Job M. Macomber, Elisha White, Daniel Thayer, David and William Legg, Jonathan Jones and his son Jonathan, all from Milford, Samuel and Asa Aldrich from Northbridge, Samuel Briggs from Berkley and Solomon Johnson from Warwick also settled on Erving's grant and named the settlement "Goshen". Many of these settlers cannot be traced at this date, but the cellar holes scattered over this tract prove that it was well-populated in early days. Would you conjure up a mental picture of the beginning of the settlement of Erving's grant, read first the old Court Record of 1751, April 11, which says, "Each settler to build a house 18 feet square and 7 feet stud and to bring to 5 acres of land fit for mowing, and upon their performing the conditions aforesaid the lands to be confirmed to them, their heirs and assigns forever."

In the northern part of the district, Elisha Johnson was living in 1776; Ebenezer Cheney of Milford settled on the present Fred Johnson farm in 1776 or 1777 and became an extensive land owner; Hananiah Temple in 1771 on Temple Hill; Alexander Wheelock on the present Geddis Hitchcock farm; Zina Goodell on the Goodell place; Ebenezer Foskett on the Williams farm. Levi Cheney is said to have bought 800 acres of land about 1777. He built a log house near the house now occupied by Charles Nylander. About 1772 Edward Ward built the

house now occupied by John Holston and about the same time Benjamin Mayo opened a public house where Rollin White now lives.

In 1760 Nathan Goddard was living on the present Rich farm and carrying on business with a saw mill and tannery. Among other settlers of this eastern section were Jason Harrington east of Tully Mountain, while in the primitive wilderness west of the mountain lived Daniel Harrington on the present Euroy Harrington farm. On the northwest slope of the mountain was Asa Albee's house, the location of which has been marked only by a birch tree in a cellar hole, for nearly half a century. On Tully meadows lived John Ellis in a house opposite the one now occupied by Mr. Denno. North of the Ellis farm was the large farm of Sylvanus Ward who lived nearly opposite the house of the late Presson Ward.

With hardy muscles, hopeful hearts and strong purpose these pioneers began their battle with the wilderness from which they were to win a town.

1783, November 24, the first district meeting was held, Saville Metcalf, clerk, and Saville Metcalf, Nathan Goddard and Elijah Ball were chosen selectmen. District meetings were held in the meeting house in accordance with Article 3 of the agreement drawn up January 1, 1781, "that whenever there shall be a Town, District or Parish set off by the General Court in this place then the said House shall be free for all the inhabitants thereof to hold all their legal Town, District or Parish meetings in". This old Puritan plan of carrying on all matters ecclesiastical and civic in the Parish, was followed for a number of years. The records of district meetings show the retention of many English customs that created offices now in disuse. Besides clerk, selectmen, treasurer and assessors, there were also chosen constable, surveyors of highways, tything-men, wardens, pound-keepers, sealer of weights and measures, fence-viewers, hog-reeves, deer-reeve, measurers of leather and viewers of shingles and clapboards. The old custom of sealing weights and measures is still retained, but that most ancient of English institutions,—the Pound—is now obsolete. In order to protect the inhabitants of "Towns and Precincts" against loss of cattle or damage to crops, an Act of the General Court had provided strict surveillance of cattle. By this Act every town had to maintain one or more pounds for confining stray "Swine, Cattle or Sheep." By vote at a district meeting, swine were "allowed to run at large if yoked and ringed according to law"; hence hog-reeves were chosen to impound swine found at large, unringed or unyoked. Stray cattle were impounded and the owner notified if he were known; if unknown, a notice containing a description of the straying animal, was posted in some public place. One such notice reads thus on the town records,—"Taken up in my enclosure a black cow with a white face 7 or 8 years old. Edward Ward, March 22, 1798." A pound necessitated a Pound Keeper whose duty it was "to guard the pound against breach, to see that the cattle were properly fed and watered until such time as they should be replevined, and to collect from the owners the fees and damages." 1784, March 15, Benjamin Mayo was chosen "Pound Keeper" and it was voted "to improve the yard of Benjamin Mayo," at present Rollin White's yard, "as a Pound for the present." On the highway nearly opposite the residence of John Blackmer, there remains a pound with walls of rough stone, a relic of the past.

The neighboring town of Shutesbury furnishes the only known instance of the impounding of a human being. There, just as the Revolutionary War began, the Rev. Abraham Hill, pastor of the church for many years, was found to be a strong Royalist. He was, therefore, asked to resign. He not only refused to resign, but expressed publicly his views. For this he was confined in the pound and given only water and herrings to live upon.





## THE PATH TO HOME

By EDGAR GUEST

There's the mother at the doorway and the children at the gate,  
And the little parlor windows with the curtains white and straight.  
There are shaggy asters blooming in the bed that lines the fence,  
And the simplest of the blossoms seems of mighty consequence.  
Oh, there isn't any mansion underneath God's starry dome  
That can rest a weary pilgrim like the little place called home.

Men have sought for gold and silver; men have dreamed at night of fame;  
In the heat of youth they've struggled for achievement's honored name;  
But the selfish crowns are tinsel, and their shining jewels paste,  
And the wine of pomp and glory soon grows bitter to the taste.  
For there's never any laughter, howsoever far you roam,  
Like the laughter of the loved ones in the happiness of home.

So where'er a man may wander, and whatever be his care,  
You'll find his soul still stretching to the home he left somewhere.  
You'll find his dreams all tangled up with hollyhocks in bloom,  
And the feet of little children that go racing through a room.  
With the happy mother smiling as she watches them at play—  
These are all in life that matter, when you've stripped the sham away.

1783, December 16, Moses Goddard, Benjamin Mayo and Nathan Cady were chosen a committee to make arrangements to obtain a training field and the District raised the sum of 30 pounds to defray charges.

## Roads and Bridges

Through all the earliest years the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges imposed a heavy burden upon the settlers. At first the old trails, not more than a foot in width, were used; probably the first roads were only a widening of these Indian trails or of paths leading from house to house, for in the records we often read of a road to be laid out "as the Path is now trod"; or of a "Bridle Road to pass by gates and bars" across certain lands. These roads are described and located simply by naming the owners of the lands across which they pass. For instance at the legal meeting, March 15, 1784, an Article called for a road from Warwick line near the top of Fall Hill across the land of Elijah Ball, Joseph Metcalf, (later Red Stock Farm); Saville Metcalf, (John Moore farm); David Legg, Samuel Aldrich and Thomas Lord to the road near Metcalf's Mills, (Graham's Mills at a later period.) No measurements are given, but a stake and stones, "a white pine tree marked," "a few marked hemlocks," "a piece of fence," "a barn" or "a house" designates some limit of the road. Stake and stones, pine and hemlock, house and barn, disappeared long ago, even the names of many of the land-owners are lost to memory so these old abandoned roads and bridle paths could not be traced now even if in a century and a half, their location had not varied.

In swampy land small trees were felled and laid side by side, across the roadway, thus making a corduroy road.

In 1795 Mr. Forrester agreed in open meeting to erect bars and let people pass through his pasture in the winter season.

Bridges succeeded fords and in 1785 it is recorded that "Miller's River, the southern boundary of Orange is covered by a chargeable bridge built and maintained by Orange and New Salem." The rebuilding of Tully bridge was discussed at a District meeting in 1785 and later in the same year it was voted to petition the General Court for redress for the large bridge in Athol coming to Orange.

Orange was naturally interested in the proposed laying out and making of a road from Northfield through Warwick and Orange to Athol, by the 5th Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation and the month after the Act of Incorporation passed the Legislature, "the corporators met at the house of Oliver Chapin, Innholder, Orange, 1802, June 2". "Voted that the Corporation will keep and maintain a dry bridge for Levi Cheney\* in Orange where it now is, sufficient for cattle to pass, it being in Consideration of his having given the Land for said Road."

This road was perhaps the most useful of all the early roads, but the toll gates, source of many petitions, were disliked by the people as will be seen by the following sketch:

## The Toll Gate at North Orange

Prepared by Edwin Gordon Lawrence and Mrs. Walter E. Chase in collaboration for the 21st Annual Reunion in North Orange, August 12, 1920.

It is not so many years ago when it was necessary for the traveler along the highways to pay toll for the right to pass, either on horseback or in vehicle, over the roads throughout the United States. Toll is a sum of money paid for the use and enjoyment of any privilege, be it grinding of corn, the taking of ice from ponds, or the use of highways.

\* Levi Cheney's farm is now the Nylander farm.

My particular theme today deals with the payment of tolls and toll gates, particularly the one that stood on the main street of our village before the present town of Orange came into existence and when the present North Orange was known as Orange. It stood across the road a short distance below the old house that is pictured on our invitations this year.

On March 1, 1799, the act of the General Court establishing a corporation by the name of the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation was approved by his Excellency Increase Sumner, governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and became a law. The corporation thus created consisted of Timothy Dutton, Elisha Hunt, John Barrett, Edward Houghton, Solomon Vose, Caleb Mayo, David Mayo, Oliver Chapin, Josiah Proctor, Oliver Estey, Samuel Sweetser, Hiram Newell, Ebenezer Jones, Jonas Kendall, Phillip Sweetser, Elisha Ball, Caleb Alvoird, Jonathan Leavitt, Richard E. Newcomb, Solomon Smead, Jerome Ripley, Ezekiel Bascom, Daniel Wells, Calvin Munn and Thomas W. Dickinson.

These incorporators were empowered to lay out and make a turnpike road from Captain Elisha Hunt's in Northfield through Warwick, Orange, Athol, Gerry (now Phillipston), Templeton and Gardner to Westminster meeting house, and from there to Jonas Kendall's tavern in Leominster; and also from Calvin Munn's tavern in Greenfield through Montague and up Millers river so as to intersect the road in Athol. It was provided that the road should not be less than four rods wide and the path to be traveled in, not less than eighteen feet wide in any place. The corporation was empowered to erect five turnpike gates, one gate near David Mayo's tavern in Warwick, one near Samuel Sweetser's tavern in Athol, one near the line between Gardner and Westminster, one near Jonas Kendall's tavern in Leominster and the other where the corporation may decide to place it on the road between Greenfield and Athol. This was at the place then known as Grant (now Erving), also erect any other where the corporation decided it was necessary.

The rate of toll was to be as follows: For every coach, phaeton, chariot or other four wheel carriage drawn by two horses, 15 cents, and if drawn by more than two horses an additional sum of four cents for each horse; for every cart or wagon drawn by two oxen or horses, 12 1-2 cents and if drawn by more than two oxen or horses an additional sum of three cents for each ox or horse; for every curriele, which was a two-wheeled, two-horse carriage with a pole, 16c; for every chaise, chair or other carriage drawn by one horse, 12 1-2c; for every man and horse 5c; for every sled or sleigh drawn by two oxen or horses, nine cents; if drawn by more than two oxen or horses an additional sum of three cents for each ox or horse; for every sled or sleigh drawn by one horse 8c; for all horses, mules, oxen or neat cattle, let or driven, 1c each; for all sheep or swine, 3c for one dozen. Thus it will be seen that no provision was made for taxing foot passengers for the use of the highway.

The position of toll-taker was not free from danger, as some persons denied the right of the corporation to tax persons for the use of the highways and at times insisted on passing the barrier without the payment of the customary toll. This led to bodily encounters which sometimes ended with the shedding of blood.

At one period Royal Ward kept the toll gate at Orange and it is said that thereby he gained the enmity of several travelers who were compelled to pay toll before they could pass his gate.

Ezekiel Ellis was also at one time keeper of the Orange toll gate, living where A. K. Turner now owns, but no anecdotes have been handed down regarding it, also a Mr. Leroc was one time a toll keeper. I would say at this time that the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation gave up their franchise in 1833, having in their treasury just \$15.



## Mills

Saw mills and grist mills were a necessity in every new settlement. On the 1790 map of the town the statement is made that now there are three saw-mills and one fulling mill in the District. The first mills mentioned in the records are Metcalf's mills, Goddard's mills and Woodward's mills. Of the latter we give the proprietors as told by Mr. Hosea S. Ballou at North Orange Reunion, August 10, 1911.

### EARLY PROPRIETORS OF WOODWARD'S MILLS

The year 1763 was a notable one for this region. Not only were the French and Indian Wars brought finally to an end by the Treaty of Paris 148 years ago, but it is of local interest to note that on February 17, of that year, the territory lying immediately west and north of this spot, which the Great and General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay had granted in 1735 to Captain Gardner's officers and men of the fated Canada expedition of 1690, was formally incorporated.



GODDARD AND WILLIAMS MILL—BURNED MAY 17, 1924

The following year a young man just out of his teens, a native of Newton, bought a tract of land in the new town of Warwick. The deed was dated December 11, 1764. The young man's name was Joseph Woodward. March 22, 1768, Jonathan Woodward sold to one Nathan Fuller his Newton homestead of 27 acres extending down to the Charles river, and on October 10th following, his son, Joseph, conveyed to him lands in the new town of Warwick. What part each took in building the mills we do not certainly know. But "Woodward's Mills" they were called, and in old records reference is often made to them; yet I do not recall to have met anyone who had definite knowledge, or even a general notion, as to the location here of "Woodward's Mills." Where did the early settlers carry their corn to be ground? And when log huts gave place to frame houses, where was the sawn timber prepared? Evidence points to the mills of Jonathan Woodward, "housewright," located not on Tully brook, at "Blissville," but to the mill later known (but not in my own lifetime) by the various names of Turner & Moses, Cheney's, Briggs's, Wheelock's, Wilbur's, Goodell's, Goddard & Williams', and now owned by Frank Williams; and he occupied the homestead of Jonathan Woodward 1768-1775, in later generations

known as the Foskett, Goodell, Battle and Shaw place. The early Hampshire County Deeds (see Book 2, page 255) and the Probate Records at Northampton (see vol. 26, page 248) locate the land directly north of the early grant of 400 acres known as "Field's Farm" including lot number 38 in the 2nd division of "Roxbury-Canada" lands, according to the original plot on file in the state archives. Before the hills on either side were denuded of the primeval forests, no doubt the mills had ample water power, for men had not then dared to harness the power of a Niagara.

Jonathan Woodward was chosen selectman of Warwick as was his son Amos, later of Orange, and as his father and grandfather had been in Newton. In 1777 his estate (including 128 acres, house, barn, shop, sawmill, horses, cattle, etc., and four notes) inventoried L 715:13:9 1-2. (Saturday, May 17, 1924 this mill was destroyed by fire.) At this time the mill was owned by Roger Conant, successor to Williams.

1784, May 3, the District of Orange was summoned for the first time to meet with the town of Warwick to choose a representative to the General Court. Three times during the period of joint representation, men of Orange were chosen to represent Warwick and Orange,—Nathaniel Cheney in 1786 and Oliver Chapin 1797 and '99.

## Shays' Rebellion

The peace of 1783 brought joy that was soon overshadowed by the general distress of an impoverished country. During the late war there was no union of states, no supreme authority to levy and collect taxes, therefore, to carry on the war the Continental Congress issued bills of credit. Having once begun the system, nothing could be done but to continue it. As one writer said, "Its cessation meant bankruptcy. Like Pickwick's horse which could be kept on his legs only by keeping him going, the stopping would be disaster and death." With no revenue, Congress could not give effectual value to her paper money and it depreciated greatly for it seemed doubtful if the Government could ever redeem its promises. When the American army was disbanded, the troops were paid in this depreciated currency, but *promises* to pay were not *paying* and most of the army notes were sold for a sixth or an eighth of their nominal value, thus depriving the soldiers of much that was their due and which they needed to provide for their families.

Previous to the war each of the thirteen colonies had issued more or less paper money, but in 1774 Massachusetts was out of debt and had prohibited within her bounds the receipt of paper money issued by her sister colonies. The war drew the colonies more closely together and Massachusetts out of sympathy for Connecticut and Rhode Island, passed a resolution that their paper currency should "hereafter be received." Not long after, Massachusetts had to issue bills of her own to meet the expenses of the war; for taxation was not looked upon with favor. When one member of Congress insisted upon taxation, he was asked indignantly why he should help tax the people when they could go to the printing office and get a cartload of money. Consequently at the close of the Revolutionary war, Massachusetts faced an accumulation of debts,—her own war-indebtedness, her quota of the public debt and the Continental scrip which had come in from the adjoining states and which they should have redeemed.

To maintain her credit and to help the Government, Massachusetts now imposed taxes which increased the heavy burden already carried by the people, but such was the poverty of the times that individuals could pay neither taxes nor honest debts. Conventions were held and there was much clamor for reform.



Imprisonment for debt became more frequent and discontent increased until in 1786 it became open rebellion, headed by Daniel Shays who had been a Captain in the Continental army. Mobs attempted to prevent the sitting of Courts, first the Court of Common Pleas "by whose action alone debts could be enforced," then "the Superior Justice Court which had cognizance of such acts."

In the whole state there were 12000 or 15000 men ready when the call came, to rise and oppose *Federal tyranny* as they termed it. Among these rebels were men who had fought in the Continental army,—courageous men, but impetuous, rash, incapable of governing; many were young men with the same idea of liberty as Luke Day, who said to his men, "My boys, you are going to fight for liberty. If you wish to know what liberty is, I will tell you. It is for every man to do what he pleases, and to make other folks do as you please to have them, and to keep folks from serving the devil."

Needing military supplies the insurgents numbering about 2000, under Shays, Day and Parsons, marched to Springfield to take possession of the arsenal with its stores of muskets and cannon. The attack failed and the insurgents withdrew to Ludlow, burning barns and robbing people on the way. Thence they went through Amherst and Pelham to Petersham where they camped. In the meantime the Government had called out men and placed them under the command of Gen. Benjamin Lincoln. With his force Lincoln reached Springfield the day after Shays left. At 7 o'clock on the night of February 3, 1787, Lincoln and his men left Hadley in pursuit of Shays. The night was wild and stormy,—snow falling, a fierce north wind blowing, but the little army wallowed through the deep snow drifts and covered the 30 miles between Hadley and Petersham in thirteen hours. They surprised Shays' men as they were getting their breakfasts Sunday morning. Shays and 150 of his men were taken prisoners; the others fled helter skelter to get out of Massachusetts as quickly as possible. The rebellion was over. About 300 of Shays' followers fled down the hill to Athol and on through Orange to Warwick until they reached the old "Goldsbury Tavern" kept by Col. James Goldsbury. Here about half of the men were given food and shelter. Those for whom there was not room were sent to Asa Conant's, about a mile farther north, where they were entertained. Soon after the departure of Shays' men from Warwick, "Col. Goldsbury was arrested by the Government for High Treason and charged with plotting and conspiring with others to overthrow the Government." Many witnesses were summoned; there are no authentic records of the trial, but testimony showed that while Col. Goldsbury sympathized with the insurgents and treated them kindly, Shays' men paid for everything they had and for all the hay and grain the horses had. The fact that Col. Goldsbury had received full payment for service he as a licensed tavern-keeper was in duty bound to give, gained him acquittal and he was allowed to continue as tavern-keeper.\*

History mentions the arrest in Swanzeey of "Lieut. Bullard of Orange while enlisting men for Shays and his commitment with two accomplices, to jail in Northampton," but we cannot find that Orange took any active part in Shays' Rebellion. We feel, however, that like other towns of the state, Orange realizing that the rebellion was provoked by poverty and misery, sympathized with the rebels although she did not approve their taking arms against the Government. Citizens of Massachusetts showed this sympathy by their votes in 1787 when Governor Bowdoin lost his re-election and John Hancock was elected Governor of Massachusetts by four fifths of the votes. The result of the election showed a desire for pardon of the insurgents as the people believed Hancock would show more clemency than would Bowdoin. All Shays' men who gave the oath of

\* The story of Col. Goldsbury is given by courtesy of Albee Smith.

allegiance were taken back into citizenship; those leaders who were sentenced to be hung were pardoned after a few months' probation and history tells us that all became at once "orderly members of society."

## Currency

Difficulties with the currency continued until after the adoption of the Federal Constitution. The utter worthlessness of its paper money showed Congress the necessity of a governmental coinage. No action was taken, but in financial circles there was much discussion of a monetary system, Jefferson suggesting that the money unit of the country be the dollar and all agreeing that the several coins should increase in a decimal ratio. In 1786 both Congress and the General Court of Massachusetts provided for the issue of gold, silver and copper coins. Congress also passed a law that accounts should be kept in dollars, cents and mills. From that time the old terms,—pounds, shillings, pence and farthings were gradually given up. In April, 1795 the assessors of Orange were instructed to make taxes agreeable to a late act of the General Court for introducing the dollar and its parts for the money of accounts.

## Perambulation

1788, December 26, the town line between Orange and Warwick was perambulated by Levi Cheney and Joseph Metcalf for Orange and James Goldsbury and Mark Moore for Warwick. This is the first record found of perambulation of any part of the town lines. It was not until 1861 that the Selectmen of Orange and Warwick met and erected the stone monuments that mark this line from its southern point to Satan's Kingdom, (where Orange, Warwick and Royalston come together on Bliss hill, now called Davis hill.) Perambulation of Bounds required by an old English law, is still followed by both towns and cities of Massachusetts, but in a somewhat different manner. In England, in the days of Queen Elizabeth, the people with the rector, the curate and the substantial men of the parish, would walk about the bounds, return to the church and offer prayer. In the perambulation the curate would at certain places read the 103rd Psalm, thus admonishing the people to give thanks unto God and the minister would inculcate the following sentence,—Cursed be he who translateth the bounds and doles of his neighbors. The old track was followed whether it led through a newly-cut canal or a newly-built house. One house had an oven that hung over the boundary line. In perambulation a boy was put into this oven to preserve the original boundary lines. Monuments were not erected, but at various points, two or three of the village boys were swung against a stone wall, a tree or a post near-by in order to impress the precise locality upon the memory of the boys and the witnesses.

## Division Into Districts

In accordance with an act authorizing towns to divide their territory into districts with defined limits, Orange in 1790-1791 was divided into five districts with the following inhabitants:

First District, (southern part of territory) Abner Morton, Asa Aldrich, Asa Lord, Benjamin Dexter, Daniel Thayer, Daniel Davidson, Levi Chapin, Ebenezer Petty, Elisha White, Joseph Lord, Joseph French, Jonathan Jones, Jonathan Jones, Jr., Samuel Ruggles, Solomon Johnson, Samuel Knowles, Zephaniah Smith and Thomas Stow.

## SOME OF THE OLD TIMERS



THE NATHAN WARD PLACE



THE NEWTON HOUSE

Let me live in a house by the  
side of the road,  
Where the race of men go by,  
The [men [who are good and the  
men who are bad.

As good and as bad as I,  
I would not sit in the scorners'  
seat,

Or hurl the cynic's ban;  
Let me live in a house by the side  
of the road

And be a friend to man.

Sam Walter Foss



THE KENDALL PLACE



THE BLISS HOUSE.



Second District, the next north. David Legg, David Cheney, Joseph Metcalf, Job Macomber, Jacob French, Joshua Hill, Joel Thayer, Michael Malone, Nathan Cheney, Perez Richmond, Saville Metcalf, Silas Metcalf, Samuel Briggs, Samuel Pitts, William Mills, William Tolly, Zadock Hayward, Job Macomber, Jr.

Third District. Alexander Wheelock, Ebenezer Atwood, Ebenezer Cheney, Ebenezer Foskett, Widow Damon, Elijah Ball, Elisha Johnson, Edward Ward, Hananiah Temple, Hezekiah Collier, John Hill, Jacob Briggs, John Forister, Asa Heminway, John Battle, James Mills, Levi Cheney, Moses Cheney, Jr., Nathaniel Cheney, Nathan Goddard, Jr., Samuel Collier, Timothy Wheelock, Uriah Collier, Uriah Collier, Jr., William Stearns, William Gould, Zina Goodell, John Beals, David Hill.

Fourth District. Abiel Saddler, Benjamin Mayo, Benjamin Woods, David Bullock, Ellis Whitney, Jonathan Goddard, Hezekiah Goddard, Jonathan Ward, John Cutting, Justin Cady, Josiah Ford, Joseph Downe, Jason Harrington, Jonathan Houghton, James Foster, Jeduthan Holden, Moses Goddard, Nehemiah Ward, Sherebiah Baker, Silas Marble, Timothy Peters, William Lord, William Lord, Jr., Preston Lord, Solomon Gates, Jonathan Woodward, Oliver Chapin, Nathan Higgins, Samuel Heminway, Jabez Whitney, Nathaniel Stearns, John Emerson.

Fifth District. Ebenezer Goddard, Martin Stevens, Oliver Estey, Seth Thompson, Asa Albee, John Stow, Nathan Goddard, Phineas Hammond, Seth Woodward, Amos Woodward, John Ellis, Nathan Ellis, Sylvanus Ward, Witt Fuller, Daniel Harrington, Moses Ellis, Seth Ellis, Nathaniel Woodcock, Asa Goddard.

In May, 1795 the selectmen were instructed to purchase for the district a burial cloth that should be kept at Lieut. Atwood's. At the same time it was ordered that "the assessors do abate the 'Friends' proportion of taxes for said cloth." Not until 1810 do we find any record of the purchase of a hearse for the district.

## First Methodist Class

1796 is the first date found in connection with a Methodist class comprising Saville Metcalf, class leader, Thomas Lord, Aaron Lord, Leonard Lord, Lydia Lord, Nathan Goddard, David Legg, Abigail Ellis, Lois Hill, Jemima Tolly, Howard Legg and Alice Holden. A collection of one pound and ten shillings is recorded as having been paid to Lorenzo Dow. Rev. Theophilus Packard, Jr. gives the date of organization of the first Methodist church in Orange as about 1794 with Rev. Benjamin P. Hill as preacher, Thomas Coope in 1795, Philip Wager and Lorenzo Dow in 1796. "The class is supposed to have met at private houses until 1822, when, its numbers being much increased, a Methodist meeting house was erected at the four corners\* west of the farm house now occupied by Henry A. Ward." Meetings were held here until about 1834-5 when the house was abandoned and removed in 1852. Methodist meetings were, however, continued in private houses, school houses and the Union meeting-house built at South Orange in 1837, until 1846. Rev. Thomas W. Gile, preacher at that time is the last preacher that we have found for that organization.

Records show that about 1796 a society of "Friends" or "Quakers" existed in the southern part of the district. "They were a community by themselves, had a school and held public worship. How long they continued as a society is not known."

\* Called "Old Methodist Corner."

## Stories of Old Times

By Mrs. Adin Taylor. August 12, 1915.

This is the beginning of a new year; 15 years have passed into history since first these reunion days were kept here on the hilltop. Many fine things have been said, many old stories recalled; much of the earlier history of the town has been given here at these reunions, and still there are many interesting things that could be brought to light, both instructive and amusing. My grandmother was born here in North Orange and I have been asked to repeat some of the stories that she told me about what happened here more than a hundred years ago. It seems hardly possible that only three generations stand between George Washington and President Wilson, yet one of the things that made a strong impression on my youthful mind was her recollection of the demonstrations at the time of the death of Washington. She used to say, when the sad news reached us that the beloved Washington was dead, every countenance was sad, all business was suspended and people unused to weep, shed tears. Public services were held in the church, which was draped in mourning, and everybody from far and near came to show their respect to his memory. In those days everybody rode horseback or went with ox teams. Often the father would take his wife, sometimes carrying a small child in her arms, on horseback behind him, and ride over the rough roads to church. They were a neighborly hospitable people here, and never refused to help a neighbor, a custom that has continued to the present time. So one man with a large family found an easy, and to him a satisfactory way of spending the winter, leaving his oldest son at home to care for the stock and keep the fires, for it was a serious matter to let the fire go out, when there were no matches and the only way to start it again was to borrow coals of a neighbor. This man would load the remainder of his family, some seven or eight of them, on the ox sled and go visiting, first one neighbor then another, spending several days at each place, only going home occasionally, as he said, to see to things. Thus the winter was passed very pleasantly and easily for him. The neighbors thought as he was so fond of a social visit they would see if he enjoyed entertaining others, so one day the women went over, saying they had come to spend the day. The sun kept going higher and higher and finally reached the noon mark on the floor, and still no signs of dinner but about two o'clock the whole family began peeling pumpkin seeds; when they had a teacup full they pounded them in a mortar and with the addition of a little milk, maple sugar and rye flour, they made a pumpkin seed pie. This with a johnny-cake furnished the whole supper, which they ate by candle light. Then there was another man who stopped in at his neighbor's just as they were ready for supper, which consisted of porridge, brown bread and milk. He was asked to have a bowlful. He said he wasn't much hungry, but he didn't mind if he did. So he was given a bowl of porridge, and after tasting he remarked, "I mind this seems a little warm, can I have a little milk to cool it." Then after putting in a generous supply of bread and eating a bit he said, "I mind this is a little cool, can I have a little porridge," and the outcome was before he got through he said "I mind" so many times the children went supperless to bed. Then there was the young man who went home with the girls from singing school. They lived upon a hill and there were two ways of getting there, one by the road and the other across lots. About 10 o'clock the father of those girls heard a timid knock at the door, and to his hearty call of, "Come in, come in, the latchstring is out," there entered a young man very much out of breath. The old gentleman, much surprised to see him alone at that hour, and fearing ill news, said: "Well, what is the trouble, David?" "Oh, nothing," and he turned pretty red, "I just came

home with your girls. They came around the road and I came across lots, so I got ahead of them." These are a few of the little foolish happenings of more than 100 years ago. Yet these old residents were people of sterling integrity, a frugal God-fearing people, and their descendants are men and women who we may feel proud are the sons and daughters of North Orange. For this old town has sent forth men and women who have helped to make the world better and happier, and have made a success of life and names that will not soon be forgotten. And so today we hold reunion here in memory, with those gone before, as well as those we greet from year to year.

## District of Orange

In 1805 a man was a Federalist or he was a Democrat, (Anti-federalist). There was no compromising, no neutral ground and regularly political battles were fought with great heat and bitter contention. Each party was distrustful of the other and each feared the other party would gain the ascendancy. This distrust and fear of defeat were so great at the May meeting, 1805, when the inhabitants of Orange and Warwick met to choose a representative, that "they agreed to leave the Meeting-house and go out upon the Common; accordingly they marched out in Indian file and paraded in two parallel lines, so that each, being single, might put in his vote without a chance of deception or of voting twice and each might be counted, viz., the number of voters and the number of votes given in. The town clerk and selectmen carried the ballot-boxes to the voters."\*

Political feeling continued to run high at succeeding elections for the Democratic party; the Anti-masonry party that raised such a "political tornado"; the Anti-slavery movement with its appeal to the conscience of the people; that secret organization, the "American" party, popularly named "Know-nothings" because the members under mutual agreement, replied, "I don't know," when asked about the society's proceedings; the Free-Soilers, the Temperance movement which merged into the Prohibition movement, influenced, each in its own way the politics of North Orange. Lively interest in elections was some times taken by the women, one of whom thus states in her diary the result of an election,—"Locos out of office; all Whigs." But slavery issues broke up the Whig party, and in 1854 Free Soilers, anti-slavery Whigs and some Democrats formed an organization named the Republican party. In the meantime the Democratic Party had gradually absorbed the various pro-slavery and states rights elements and this new alignment of parties,—Republicans and Democrats—has often brought spirited contests, with North Orange favoring the Republicans.

1806. For a number of years Orange cared for its needy poor by boarding each in some family, making a new contract yearly. In 1806, "the district refused to raise any money for the support of its poor that year." In 1848, November 25, the town bought for an alms place Edmund Wilbur's farm of 123 acres with the buildings thereon. The cost price was \$2400. Some years later the town built there a two-story house with twenty rooms to be used as an alms-house. In 1908 one of the town's poor was boarded in North Orange, the other in another town. A feeling prevailed that the expense of maintaining an alms-house for such a small number of needy folk, was unnecessary and in March of that year it was voted to authorize the selectmen to sell the place. At that time experts estimated that there was standing on the farm "not less than one million feet of pine and spruce," the largest uncut lot of timber in that

\* By Mr. Jonathan Blake, Warwick.



"OVER THE HILL TO THE POOR FARM"

section. This timber was reserved by the town when, a few months later, the Town Farm was sold at auction. At the present time the farm is owned by Mr. Fred Johnson.

## Incorporation of the Town

1810, February 24, the District of Orange was incorporated as a town. The act of incorporation reads as follows:— Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In the year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Ten. An act to incorporate the District of Orange in the County of Hampshire, as a town by the name of Orange.

## Orange

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the District of Orange, in the County of Hampshire, with the inhabitants thereof, be, and the same hereby is incorporated and established as a town, by the name of Orange, and is hereby vested with all the powers and privileges, and subjected to the like duties and requirements of other towns, according to the Constitution, and Laws of this Commonwealth.

1810, April 2, the first town meeting was held. Amos Woodward, Pearly Barton and Thomas Cobb composed the first board of selectmen of the town and Amos Woodward was the first clerk. It is interesting to know something about the connection of a fellow citizen with the management of town affairs. The following is a certificate of the various offices filled by Amos Woodward.

1812, February 23. This certifies that I have served the town of Orange as assessor 17 years; as selectman nine years; as overseer of the town Poor 8 years and Town Clerk 11 years, from 1789 to 1812 inclusive. Assessor 6 years without pay. Selectman 9 years without pay. Recorded births and deaths 7 years without pay. Overseer of the Poor 5 years without pay. Attest, Amos Woodward Town Clerk.

On February 3, 1812, Amos Woodward was appointed "one of our Justices of the Peace, within and for the County of Franklin."





THE DR. BARTON HOME

## Franklin County

In January, 1811, a petition for the division of Hampshire County was presented to the General Court by petitioners representing the towns of Buckland, Charlemont, Heath, Rowe, Colrain, Shelburne, Leyden, Bernardston, Gill, Greenfield, Deerfield, Northfield, Warwick, Orange, (represented by Joseph Metcalf), Wendell, Montague, New Salem and the Plantation of Erving's Grant. The reasons given for this petition were the great distances of these towns from the county seats and "the consequent expense, the multiplicity of actions and delays of trials." The towns of Northampton, Conway, Hawley, Whately, Leverett, Easthampton, Worthington, Chester, Southampton, Westhampton, Goshen, Williamsburg, Plainfield, Cummington and Norwich sent remonstrances against the organization of a new county, but the legislative committee reported in favor of the division and the act erecting the county of Franklin, was affirmed June 24, 1811, and took effect from and after December 2, 1811. In addition to the towns that petitioned for a division, Franklin county includes four of the remonstrating towns—Conway, Hawley, Leverett and Whately; also Ashfield, once Huntstown, Munroe, once a part of Rowe, Shutesbury, at one time called Roadtown and Sunderland, which was for a time common land. The act establishing the county, made Greenfield the county seat.

## Post Office

In March, 1816, the following petition was sent from Orange to the Postmaster General of the United States of America:—

The Petition of the subscribers humbly shows, that the Post road leading from Boston to the first distributing Post office in Brattleboro, Vermont, runs

through the middle of the town of Orange; that every other town on the line has a Post office established therein (except said Orange) as well for the Convenience of the Citizens thereof as to subserve the Public Good—your Petitioners therefore state that the distance from the Post office in Warwick at the north, to the Post office at Athol in the south, is ten miles, and Orange nearly in the center between, and a place where the stage always makes a stop—therefore we your Petitioners pray that a Post office might be established in said town of Orange as well for the Convenience of the Citizens thereof, (who are now at much expense in getting their letters to and from the Post offices in the adjoining towns) as for the subserviency of the Public. Furthermore we do recommend Mr. Lyman Harrington of said Orange as a suitable person to be commissioned for a Postmaster, and one who has always been firmly attached to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever Pray.

1816, May 23, a Post office was established at Orange with Lyman Harrington as the first Postmaster.

## Tornado of 1821

The following is abridged with some slight alterations from a communication in the Franklin Herald, September 18, 1821, and, as we believe, contains no exaggeration of the tremendous scene it describes.

Warwick, Mass., September 14, 1821.

"On Sunday the 9th instant, about 6 o'clock, p. m., we were visited by the most destructive tempest, that was ever witnessed in this part of the country. It very much resembled, if it did not equal, both in its fury and effects, those tornadoes, which have been thought peculiar to tropical climates. None but those who witnessed the scene, or have visited the field of destruction, can form an idea of its power.

"Immediately previous to its commencement a gentle shower of rain, attended with moderate thunder and lightning, passed over the north part of this town. About the time the rain ceased, a small black cloud was discovered in the west, about 10 degrees above the horizon, in great commotion, to which point numerous small clouds moved in rapid succession, and were involved in the general mass.

"From this cloud a very dense vapor of a cylindrical form extended to the ground, which appeared to be in a constant whirl. This was evidently produced by two powerful currents of air meeting together from the north and west, as there was a very sensible pressure from those two points.

"The tornado commenced on the high land east of Connecticut river in Northfield, making an easterly course through this town about a mile south of the center. Its march was grand and awful; sweeping in its course, (which was from 20 to 120 rods wide,) everything before it. Trees, fences, stone walls and buildings afforded no resistance. Trees, stripped of their small branches were found at a considerable distance from their former standing. Stones of many hundred weight and large logs were removed out of their beds and in many places deep furrows were made in the earth.

"In Northfield, two houses and three barns were entirely demolished, and several persons severely injured.

"In Warwick, two barns owned by Jonas Leonard and Elijah Miller were destroyed. A dwelling house, barn, and out-buildings of Mr. Jonathan Wilson were shivered to atoms, and the greatest part of the contents carried away. There were six persons in the house at the time, three of whom were taken from



## WHEN AN OLD MAN GETS TO THINKING

By EDGAR GUEST

When an old man gets to thinking of the years he's traveled through,  
He hears again the laughter of the little ones he knew.  
He isn't counting money, and he isn't planning schemes;  
He's at home with friendly people in the shadow of his dreams.

When he's lived through all life's trials and his sun is in the west,  
When he's tasted all life's pleasures and he knows which ones were best,  
Then his mind is stored with riches, not of silver and of gold,  
But of happy smiling faces and the joys he couldn't hold.

Could we see what he is seeing as he's dreaming in his chair,  
We should find no scene of struggle in the distance over there,  
As he counts his memory treasures, we should see some shady lane  
Where's he walking with his sweetheart, young, and arm in arm again.

We should meet with friendly people, simple, tender folk and kind,  
That had once been glad to love him. In his dreaming we should find  
All the many little beauties that enrich the lives of men  
That the eyes of youth scarce notice and the poets seldom pen.

Age will tell you that the memory is the treasure-house of man.  
Gold and fleeting fame may vanish, but life's riches never can;  
For the little home of laughter and the voice of every friend  
And the joys of real contentment linger with us to the end.



the ruins much wounded, but no lives were lost. A cow standing in the yard was driven by the current a number of rods, and killed.

"From this scene of desolation we traced the tornado to a large pond, where a great quantity of water was taken up in the form of a water spout.

"After this, it unroofed and demolished the chimney of a house in which were eleven persons, one of whom was taken lifeless from the ruins. Having destroyed two other barns and unroofed two more it passed from Warwick into Orange, still retaining all its violence and scattering in ten thousand fragments a large house occupied as a tavern, together with the barns and a blacksmith shop.

"There were eleven persons, who were scattered in different directions. A young woman, living in the family, aged 20 years, was found dead under the rubbish, after an hour and a half diligent search, forty feet from where she was last seen. A horse was carried forty rods and killed.

"After destroying two other barns, the fury of the wind abated, at the distance of about ten miles from the commencement of its dreadful operations.

"Large quantities of hay and grain were carried away from those barns which were destroyed and we learn that fragments of buildings and furniture, sheaves of grain, bed quilts, and clothing had been found scattered along to the distance of 25 miles east of this place.

"It is observable, that everything was drawn toward the center of the course of the tornado, where it was most powerful. It sounded like heavy distant thunder, and shook the earth to the distance of two miles.

"It is not easy to describe the feelings of those, who have been involved in this calamity when they first saw their danger. So sudden and rapid was its approach, that they had no time to meditate on means of safety. Indeed there was no escape. Had they left their houses, their situation would have been equally perilous, the air being filled with fragments, which were hurled with the velocity of thunderbolts.

"We have to bewail the loss of two lives, and it is a matter of astonishment, that many others did not share the same fate, when we consider their exposed situations. God may be truly said to have spoken to us out of the whirlwind, and has given us a striking instance of his power and mercy."

—A. E. Brooks

The reading of the above article by Mr. Brooks was supplemented by the following remarks by Mrs. E. B. G. Ballou:

It was when my oldest brother was six months old and my mother, with the sleeping baby in her arms, was visiting at the Smith tavern that the great calamity occurred. Thirteen persons were in the house and only one, Lydia Stearns, was killed, but most of the others were bruised. My mother found herself five or six rods south, in the garden, under some loose timbers from which she managed to crawl with the silent child, supposing him dead. With the blood streaming down her face, in a dazed way she went on a run home, which was a half mile distant over the hills. When she arrived she found her three-year-old daughter Diana, in care of her uncle Jonathan Goodell, nine years of age, roasting green corn (which had blown through the windows from across the road) as composedly as though nothing had happened. On removing the apron with which she had bound the child she found that his sleep had been undisturbed. (Furthermore he was noted for being a sound sleeper all his days.)

I have heard the affair described so often that even now when I hear of like occurrences I imagine myself on Temple hill and see the great, black, tunnel-shaped cloud sailing with great rapidity through the air from the west, leaving destruction and death in its path. A house of a Mr. Brown in Warwick, Smith tavern, barn at Grandfather Cheney's (the poor farm) and my father's house in the

valley were in its path. Captain Smith and Mr. Goodell were at the pond schoolhouse planning some repairs and knew nothing of it till one-half way to Captain Wheelock's (now the Hitchcock house), so the path of the storm was very narrow.

The first intimation of it was when the two boys, Sullivan Smith and Abner Goodell (who were serving apprenticeship to learn the blacksmithing trade, as custom was in those days) came rushing in to say there was a terrible cloud coming, and Mrs. Smith went to look at it when the front door flew open and as they three were trying to shut it things and people seemed to rise up from the floor. That was the last my mother remembered before she found herself surrounded by lumber in the garden but the rest of her life she gave close attention to singularly shaped black clouds, as all do whom I have seen who have been through some of these latter-day affairs that seem to occur oftenest in the West and Southwest.

August 14, 1919.

## Annexation of New Salem

Between 1790 and 1830 the population did not vary much, but between 1830 and 1840 there was an increase of 621. To this there were several contributory causes. The fine water power of Millers River had drawn to the southern part of the town a number of manufacturing interests. In 1798 clothier's works were set up. In 1803 Levi Thurston commenced making scythes and had the first tilt hammer in Orange. Of interest in connection with the scythe maker, is the following entry in the journal of young Thurston's father,—“1802, May 25. Then my son Levi was 21 years of age and inasmuch as I gave him his four years of his time to learn to make scythes, I consider that time as good as 70 dollars which is as much as I gave to Reconcile, my daughter, when she married.” 1804 brought the first carding machine. 1805, Abner and Jacob Whitney began making hats. 1811, Benjamin Stow put up a shop for making one-horse wagons.

But the chief cause of increased population was the annexation March 16, 1837 of the northern part of New Salem and a part of Erving's Grant. As this added territory brought the little hamlet of South Orange near the geographical center of the town the seat of town government was removed there from the northern part of the town where the first settlers had congregated, and November 13, 1837, the first town meeting held in South Orange took place in the town-house just erected there. As the building of this town-house is intimately connected with the distribution of the Jackson Surplus of 1837, a brief review of that most unsatisfactory business operation does not seem out of place. The sale of public lands, territory not organized into States, had been an important source of revenue to the Government from the first. The rise of the railway system and the great increase in alien immigration between 1831 and 1837, caused enormous sale of public lands. The resulting growth of revenue extinguished the public debt in 1836 and Congress voted that “after January 1, 1837 all revenue in the United States Treasury, exceeding \$5,000,000, should be divided among the several States as a loan to be recalled only by direction of Congress.” This surplus was to be paid in four instalments to the several States in proportion to their electoral vote. None of it was ever recalled, but only a part of the instalments was paid. The Government revenue was deposited in banks selected by the Treasury. These favored banks were often called “pet banks.” Payment for public lands was made largely by bank notes until, alarmed by the accumulation of so much paper money of uncertain value, the Secretary of the Treasury by order of President Jackson, instructed the agents in charge of land-offices, to receive only gold and silver. This caused a demand for



specie which could only be met by those banks where Government funds were deposited. Most of the other banks suspended and when, a little later, Government called for its deposits to make further distribution of surplus revenue to the States, many of these "pet banks" were involved in the general ruin and there was no further transference of Government "loans" to the States. Many of the States had voted to receive the Government money as a "loan" and knowing in advance that money was coming to them, forgot the old proverb and, counting the chickens before they were hatched, undertook large projects in anticipation of their share of the surplus revenue. The receipt of only a small portion of what they had expected brought embarrassment to many places.

Orange took action in regard to its share and Mr. Albee Smith gives us the story as told by the town records:-

"Article 6th of the warrant issued by the selectmen of Orange, Solomon Howard, Otis Brooks and Peter Cheney, clerk, dated April 25th, 1837, reads as follows:-

"To see if the town will vote to receive the Town's proportion of the surplus revenue, and authorize the treasurer or choose an agent to give bonds for the same and act thereon."

Pursuant to this warrant the Town voted, "On Article 6th, to receive the surplus revenue in cash and the selectmen be authorized to loan it to the inhabitants of the Town in sums not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$200.00 to one, payable on demand, with endorsers to the acceptance of the selectmen for the time being, with interest annually; and the interest to be appropriated to the support of our common schools." "On Article 7th, voted to choose a committee of five to see on what conditions lands can be procured and where to build a Town house, to consider and determine the dimensions of the proposed Town house; the committee's choice was Phincas Battle, Jr., Jesse Worrick, Otis Brooks, Josiah Goddard and Benjamin Merriam."

The meeting then adjourned to meet April 29th, 1837, at which this committee should report and on that day they did report that they had selected a piece of land owned by Sherman Bacon, who then owned and occupied the "Putnam House." The piece selected stood opposite the Union Meeting House and was the same tract that the present town house occupies. The proposed house was to be 46 feet long, 34 feet wide, 12 foot posts, to contain but one apartment with 4 tiers of seats on each side of the house; a desk at the end opposite the door with 10 or 12, 24-lighted windows, and blinds to each window. The probable expense to be about \$600.

The writer remembers well the only time he was ever in that old town house. It was at a spring town meeting about 1853 and to my boyish eyes it was a great institution. The room was well filled with men and one stood up behind the desk on an elevation. He was addressed as "Mr. Moderator." It seemed strange that everybody was so well acquainted with Mr. Moderator, as I had never heard my people mention such a name, and I inquired about him when I got home, and the matter was explained to me that his name was not "Moderator." That room and all its appearance, people, benches, "Mr. Moderator" and all is indelibly impressed upon my mind.

At an adjourned meeting held June 19, 1837, it was voted, "To receive the surplus revenue in Bank Bills and that after the town house had been paid for, the residue should be put into the hands of the treasurer to pay the money he has borrowed for the town." November 13, 1837, they held their first town meeting in their new town house and then voted to buy the poor farm\* and the needed stock, furniture for the house and tools for the farm. I have not been

\* The Poor Farm was not bought until Nov. 25, 1848.

able to trace all this surplus revenue, but I believe that Orange showed as good sense in its use as the most of towns. It went for a town house, a poor farm and probably for school and town debts already made. There seems to have been no wild cat schemes nor public enterprises of doubtful policy undertaken. The vote to loan out the money in sums from \$100 to \$200 seems not to have been carried out very far; probably the plan was not favored by the selectmen, or else they could not agree upon the amount that should be given to the friends of each and therefore refused all; as we have a right to presume that our forefathers were discreet men, we may conclude that they declined to make the loans authorized by that vote."

## TULLY HISTORY, NOTES AND INCIDENTS

By Miss Hattie M. French.

The village of Tully, formerly known as Furnace Village and also known as the Plains, was a part of that portion of land which was set off from Athol, Royalston and Warwick to make the town of Orange in 1783.

One of the older residents, Calvin Mayo, senior, conceived the idea of getting water from the river to further the business interests of the village and with this end in view he purchased of Amos Boyden, who owned property at Fryville,



DOWN THERE IS TULLY POND

the right to dig a ditch to convey water into what is now called Lily pond, formerly known as Packard pond. Trees, etc., were felled upon a low, level tract of land a short distance below the Lily pond, a dam built upon the lower side of it and a connecting ditch dug. When all was completed the water was turned on from the river, which soon filled both ponds. So great was the rush of water that all the roots of the beautiful water lily were washed from the upper pond into the lower one, there they have grown and flourished all these years.

The fine water power thus afforded proved an attraction in a business way.



WHERE "TULLY" CASTS ITS SHADOW DOWN

The first business mentioned to me as having been located at Tully was a blacksmith shop which was situated near where the Stowell and Worrick shop now stands, about the year 1831. This shop was owned by a man named Jillson,\* who had a trip-hammer for forging iron there which was run by water power. Mr. Jillson was an extra fine workman. In the corner above the blacksmith shop was a foundry, which was in charge of Nathan Mayo, Ashael Harrington and others. Some very fine work was done there and people from all about the country went there to get castings made. One of them was Baxter Whitney of Winchendon, now 92 years of age. He used to walk from Winchendon to Tully, bringing with him patterns to get castings made from. The foundry business was purchased by Levi Goddard, who added to the buildings and machinery and manufactured doors, sash and blinds. After a time he sold out to Joseph Pierce and H. R. Stowell became his partner. Later on Mr. Stowell conducted the business for years in his own name, but for a number of years past the firm name has been Stowell and Worrick, Mr. Stowell having taken Frank C. Worrick as a partner. The firm of Pierce and Stowell was one that suffered great loss by fire, the old factory having been burned in 1865, together with a large lot of lumber and Mr. Stowell's barn. After the fire the business was removed to its present location.

A man by the name of Hale owned what was known as the Packard shop, which stood where the old ice-house was and was for a time used as a distillery, cider brandy being made there. Then Asa Piper of Royalston bought out Mr. Hale's right and made furniture, the first furniture shop in the place. Tables, light stands and wash stands were made there and were sent to Boston to be set up. The business was next owned by Noah Packard, Deacon Job Fry and a Mr. Mann and was later owned by Mr. Packard alone, he having purchased the shares of his partners. After a time Joseph Pierce of Pepperell came to town and used the factory for repairing old furniture and making new, having Daniel Mayo as a partner, who later sold out to Caleb Mayo, who finally bought out

\* "Jonas Jillson."

Mr. Pierce's share of the business, Mr. Pierce removing to Athol. Newell Holman of Royalston was afterwards Mr. Mayo's partner. The shop was burned in October 1865.

Near where the factory of C. H. Gale is now located there was, at one time, a fulling mill where wool was transformed into rolls ready for spinning and weaving at home. Coloring was also done there. At first this business was in charge of a man named Hale, but afterwards it was owned by Daniel Sabin and George Martin. This shop was sold to Bill & Taylor, and pails were made there for a time, afterwards pine furniture. It was burned in May, 1872, also an up and down saw mill, that was located in a part of the factory. The residence of Jonathan Flagg was also burned at that time and the fire swept over a large territory of land beyond the house. A grist mill was formerly located nearby, the business being conducted by Calvin Mayo. Power was furnished by a water wheel fifty feet in diameter.

F. G. Holden erected a small building on the site of the old Bill & Taylor shop and match cards were made there for a while. Later on the buildings were purchased by C. H. Gale, enlarged and added to and at present a flourishing box business is conducted there. Mr. Gale also owns a modern sawmill, the machinery for which occupies a part of the building.

The name of the village was changed from The Plains to Furnace Village at the time the foundry was established and from Furnace Village to Tully about 18 years ago, at the time the postoffice was first established. For 22 years a village store has been located on its present site and for all that time it has been conducted by Frank B. Knowland until his death, a few weeks ago. Previous to that time a small grocery business was conducted by Sumner Goddard and others and was located in parts of private residences.



THE WOODWARD PLACE





THE FRENCH FAMILY HOME

This paper would be far from complete without special mention of the serviceable hand fire engine, which was so greatly admired by the writer when a child. Tully engine was purchased in the spring of 1864. The company was organized at the same time. The first captain or foreman was Joseph Pierce. The present one is Alonzo W. Martin. Thirty-four men are enlisted as members of the company at the present time. The Tully engine has done gallant service in many a fire and is still capable of splendid work. It is still housed in its first village home, although the building where it is located has twice been enlarged. The old part of the building was a part of a storehouse owned by Joseph Pierce. One of the most faithful firemen for many years was my father. He never missed a business meeting and did faithful work at many a fire. How well I remember the importance he attached to the "engine meeting" and how anxious he was to be "on time," often sitting with his hat on for quite a while, waiting for the time to start for the village. Finally he became incapacitated for service and his resignation was asked for. Even then he insisted that he "could pump as well as any of them" and for a long time he refused to give up his uniform.

The present Tully schoolhouse was built in 1863. The first teacher there was Miss Addie Atherton, who died years ago. Previous to the erection of the new building school sessions were held in what was known as the "old school-house," which was located just around the corner of the road to Fryeville. The last teacher there was Henry S. Wood, now residing in Royalston. One of the other teachers there was Mrs. E. B. G. Ballou, who taught school in the summer of 1855 and had about 40 students. The school was looked after by Rev. Levi Ballou, who afterwards married the young teacher.

I have made a special effort to learn which is the most ancient house now standing within the borders of Tully and so far as I know the oldest one is the

Fred Newton house, opposite Tully cemetery. The first house that was ever built in Tully was probably what was called the Cutting house, afterwards occupied by Jonathan Bryant and others. It was located on land now owned by D. E. Clement on the road to Athol nearly opposite the road leading to Fryeville. Among the other ancient houses now standing are those known as the J. A. French house, the Simon Harrington house, and the A. W. Martin house, Ansel Harrington house, F. G. Holden house and a number of others. One of the oldest of these is the J. A. French house. This house must have been built at least 100 years ago. Some men named Blodgett lived there for a time and it was afterwards sold to John Lewis, senior, of Athol. Mr. Lewis formerly lived on the Bearsden road in that town but removed to Tully and made his home there until his death, rearing a large family of children. The house formerly stood on the opposite side of the road on the hillside a little east of its present location. On account of the difficulty of securing water there it was finally decided to move the house to its present location which was done some 70 years ago, and the house was enlarged and remodeled. The house was purchased by J. A. French nearly 50 years ago and for over 40 years the family made their home there. It is now owned by George Richardson of Athol.

The beautiful stream that winds its way through meadows for a considerable distance is one of the most attractive features of the place. In L. B. Caswell's history of Athol it is stated that, according to tradition, Tully brook derived its name from an Indian's dog which, in following a deer, drove the animal over the meadows into these waters and while attempting to seize his prey, was struck by the deer and held under the water until poor Tully was drowned. This was the generally accepted theory until recent years when investigation tends to show that this is not probable, as Tully has been found to be a good old English name instead of an Indian name. As there were persons by the name of Tully in Massachusetts and other New England states, it seems more than likely that the brook was named after some of those early



AT THE HEAD OF THE STREET—THE STORE

settlers, who in some way became interested in this section, perhaps some surveyor, as has been suggested by those who have investigated the matter.

Tully played her full part in furnishing men who were willing to fight for their country, as she sent 12 brave young fellows to the Civil war. The first one to enlist was William H. Mellen, who was then a young lad of 18 years, working for George P. Hawkes of Templeton. Fired by the news of the shooting of Colonel Ellsworth in 1861, when a man came around soliciting volunteers young Mellen lost no time in adding his name to the list of men who had enlisted, then went to his home in Tully, paid his father \$100 for his time until he would be 21 and worked all night and for two days notifying others who had enlisted. He was assigned to Company A, 21st Massachusetts regiment. Converse Mayo and W. A. Flagg, also from Tully, enlisted in the same company, of which Mr. Hawkes was the first colonel.

Others enlisting from Tully in 1862 in the 36th Massachusetts regiment were Henry Mayo, Hiram Woodward, Henry Boyden, J. H. Pierce, Jerome Pierce, Edwin Stevens and Sumner Moore. In the 52d Massachusetts regiment: H. R. Stowell and David D. Mellen.

It was originally intended to have the cemetery located on the hill back of the house formerly occupied by Calvin Mayo and one or two bodies were buried there, which were later removed to the cemetery proper. Tully cemetery was laid out in the early 50's and the first body to be laid to rest there was that of Stevens Bliss. Dr. Dean, an accomplished physician, a man who was a favorite with all and who was able to accomplish much good, was soon after laid to rest there. He married Miss Helen Frost, daughter of Daniel Frost. He died in the house now occupied by Mrs. E. B. G. Ballou at North Orange. A white marble shaft marks his resting place on the northeast hillside. At least six ministers are buried there. They are Revs. Levi Ballou, Sumner Ellis, Jonathan Forrester, George Harris, J. H. Garman, O. K. Crosby.\* Tributes to the memory of 14 soldiers are paid each year. Five were buried in the South and the bodies of nine have been interred in Tully cemetery. Two of these, Captain Zina Goodell and John Lewis, enlisted for the war of 1812. Other soldiers buried there are the following who served in the Civil War: Sumner Morse,† Osgood Rich, Henry S. Temple, J. Greenleaf, J. E. Forrester, Mensies R. Hartshorn, Benjamin Mayo. Those buried in the South were: David Mellen, Henry H. Mayo, Edmund S. Ward, Amos T. Holden, Augustus E. Bliss.

In former years but little attention was paid to keeping the cemetery neat and clean but my father, Josiah A. French, was appointed sexton one year and he cut the brush, briars, etc., raked them and burned them. He it was who set out the row of pine trees beside the southerly wall that now adds so much to the beauty and comfort of the cemetery and beneath which we laid his body to rest last February. Mr. French's village improvement work has been followed up from year to year until now the beauty of Tully cemetery is the cause of general comment on all sides. The rows of carefully trimmed trees, the neatly kept lots, etc., are worthy of special mention. The latest improvement is the laying of a water pipe from the cemetery to a spring on the side of the mountain furnishing an abundant supply of water for use upon the lots. This spring was given by the late M. R. Hartshorn, and special votes of thanks for securing this convenience are due to Francis H. Bliss of Orange and Mrs. S. F. Daniels of Tully. Mr. Bliss is a member of the Orange board of cemetery commissioners and Mrs. Daniels has long worked to obtain the needed water supply. The expenses of pipe, labor, etc., were paid for from the Mrs. A. P. Goddard fund.

\* The Rev. W. D. Potter was buried in Tully Cemetery in 1917.

† Sumner Moore.

Fred A. Keyes is the present sexton and does his work faithfully and well. Extra space has lately been given the cemetery by the purchase of a tract of land on the easterly side. A commodious tomb was built in the side of the hill a few years ago.

There has never been a church at Tully, but many of the people have attended both the Universalist and Congregational churches on the hill for many years. Occasional services have been held at Tully, but no special religious interest has been awakened there.

There are few things that played a more important part in the history of Tully some 45 years or more ago than did the old cannon. The history of this old war horse is well worth extended mention, but is so well known that I will touch upon it only briefly. The cannon was a Revolutionary relic which was loaned the town by the United States government and for many years stood upon the common at North Orange. It was frequently used for celebrations and often traveled from place to place and spoke loudly on many occasions. In 1839 a party from what was then the south village of Orange stole the cannon and used it there. After the celebration it was promptly returned. The cannon continued to play its part in history up to the sixties, when the country engaged in Civil war. About that time there was trouble between the democrats and the republicans of the village, both parties being desirous that the cannon should be used only by their particular party. This being the case, secretive methods were employed and for a time the cannon was hidden in hay mows, etc. At the close of the war the excitement subsided and the cannon was kept at Orange until 1886, when the residents of the north part of the town took it to Tully, loaded it heavily with sods, etc. As a consequence the cannon shouted its last shout and parts of it are still at the bottom of Tully pond.

Some 12 or 15 years ago some excellent soapstone was taken from the westerly side of Tully mountain. This was carefully gotten out with chisels but, so the story runs, a certain Athol man went up there to assist in the work and, thinking to do quicker work, commenced using dynamite, which spoiled the stone and made a cessation of work necessary.

Upon the plain above what is known as the J. A. French house flocks of wild pigeons used to gather, drawn there by what seemed to be quantities of easily gotten food, but which in reality was only bait to attract the birds and get them entangled in a net, after which hundreds of them were shot. These beds were some 10 x 15 feet in size and were covered with nets, corn being scattered around the edges. Pigeon beds were also located in other places and ere long the pigeons were all killed. One of the other so-called "sports" was chicken shooting, which was finally stopped by the authorities.

One of the older residents now gone to his rest whose life is worthy of special mention was "Uncle" Calvin Mayo. His was an original character but he was made of the sturdy old New England stock and his was a most straightforward, upright life. He was of a somewhat visionary nature and was always looking for a valuable mine in Tully mountain or exercising the power of his divining rod to locate water. He it was who insisted that Tully mountain was at one time located where the Lily pond now is, but that some great force of nature took it from there, turned it over and gave it its present location.

This paper will not be complete unless special mention is made of Henry R. Stowell, who for so many years has been prominent in the business interests of Tully. Mr. Stowell was born in Petersham but went to Tully in 1855 and entered the employ of Pierce & Mayo. In 1869 he entered into partnership with Mr. Pierce and a little later purchased the interest of his partner and conducted the business in his own name for years. When the call for volun-



teers to serve in the Civil war came, Mr. Stowell enlisted with seven of his employees.

At the close of his term of service, with his surviving comrades, he returned to Tully and resumed business at the factory where it had been left the year before. In 1865 fire destroyed his factory and all his stock of lumber, on which there was no insurance, leaving him heavily in debt. He at once bargained for part of another factory and resumed business. He moved to Athol in 1883 but still looks after much business in Tully, but is now assisted in this work by Frank C. Worrick, who entered into partnership with him several years ago.

### Tully Addenda

Since 1909 when the preceding history was written, the years have brought growth and prosperity to Tully industries. Mr. Frank C. Worrick who became Mr. Stowell's partner in September, 1892 has continued the business since 1911 when he bought Mr. Stowell's interest in the firm. In the summer of 1922 the factory was remodeled and a new water wheel put in. F. C. Worrick & Co. employ from 15 to 20 men in the manufacture of pine and chestnut tables which are shipped to the New England, Middle and Southern States.

The Gale factory was bought in 1890 by Mr. Conrad H. Gale who died July 25, 1921. Mr. Gale's two sons, C. David Gale and Henry A. Gale continue the business under the name of Gale Brothers. In the summer of 1923, 2500 square feet of floor space were added and new machines put in. Boxes and box shooks are made, giving employment to about 20 men. The products of the factory are sold through wholesalers, being shipped to New York, Pennsylvania and New England states.

Mr. Frank Knowland, Postmaster and village storekeeper, died in June, 1909. Succeeding him in the same service to the community have been C. W. Reed, August, 1909; W. P. Childs, 1915; Earl J. Curfew, May 1922.

### Third Congregational Church

The beginning of the present Congregational church was August 16th, 1843, precisely 74 years ago next Thursday. The meeting-house was a dwelling that had been bought by Mrs. Roxanna Frost and moved to the Frost property.

It stood either on the grounds of the Oliver Ward place, now known as the Overview, or on the grounds of the E. D. Ward place. Mrs. Roxanna Mayo Frost superintended the moving to the Frost land. It is said that the oxen provided for the task of moving the building proved refractory and would not "move on." It was suggested to Mrs. Frost that if some strong drink were furnished for the men they would be able to start the animals. That was a custom of the time. Possibly a use for alcohol aside from "medicinal purposes" might be termed for "mechanical purposes," when prohibition becomes nationwide, if this method of starting balky oxen were in vogue today. Daniel Frost was a noted temperance lecturer and lawyer, and his wife being a strong teetotaler did not approve this mechanical use of alcohol. However, after repeated vain efforts some liquor was procured from some source and the building conveyed to its new resting-place. Mrs. Frost superintended the fitting-up of the chapel. Delegates from Orange and Erving and pastors and delegates from Warwick, Wendell and Athol assembled August 16th, 1843, in the new meeting-house and the "Third Congregational Society of Orange" was organized. The charter members were Emery Woodard, Ursula Woodard, Mary Boyden, Emily



THE "CONGO" CHAPEL

J. Forrester, Hannah Goddard, Mary I. Goddard, (who became Mrs. Porter), Mrs. Roxanna Frost, Mrs. Dolly Barton, Tyler Briggs, John Cheney and Delia Baker.

Rev. Josiah Tucker was the first pastor. December 3, 1843, only four months after its birth, the church signed the pledge card of total abstinence and stipulated that all future admissions to the church should be abstainers and sign the pledge.

The second pastor to serve the church was Rev. Charles Boyter, called in April, 1847. During his brief pastorate of less than a year, the Brattleboro Sunday school contributed \$10 for the nucleus of a Sunday school library.

In April, 1848, Rev. Samuel D. Darling of West Yarmouth accepted a call. His salary was \$400, half of which was given by the Home Missionary society. Rev. Willard Jones of Northfield, Rev. Benjamin F. Clarke of Rowe and Rev. S. J. M. Lord of Norwich, Vt., held short pastorates and for a period of 12 years the church was without records, from 1854 to 1866. During Mr. Lord's pastorate six of the children of T. R. Ward were baptized. September 11, 1858, however, it is known that Nathaniel F. Blodgett and Loring C. Shaw bought the chapel of the Frost estate and moved it to its present location.

Before the removal to its present location secular schools were held in the chapel. The "select school," as it was called came between the end of the summer term of the district school at the little red school house and the beginning of the winter term. Simple beginnings were made in some subjects not taught in the district school, including drawing, singing and botany. The roomy desk at one end of the long, narrow room stood with two legs resting on the edge of the platform and two longer legs reaching down to the floor in front of the platform. This served for teacher's desk or pulpit as occasion required. There

were movable shelves that served for desks for the children. At the end of the week these were let down, the pupils packed their books on the back seats of the chapel and the place was ready for Sunday services and Sunday school. The large stove was in the center of the room and the seats on each side of it, shorter than the rest to allow passage on each side down the center to the front seats. One season there was a writing school taught by O. L. Whittaker.

At another time a juvenile singing school, conducted by George F. Miller of Royalston, met in the chapel. He accompanied the singing with his violin. There was one song that introduced the names of the singers and closed with the refrain, "We're a band of brothers, we're a band of brothers, and in union may we dwell." This song was greeted with applause in the performance given by the school. Another number on their program was a solo sung by one of the girls in Swiss costume. "Come, round me ladies fair, I've ribbons and laces, I've paint and I've perfume, to add to the graces."

So much is recalled by Miss Maria L. Corliss of Providence of the words of this solo, also the fact that the soloist carried toys and ended each verse with the words, "Then buy a little toy of poor Rose of Lucerne." The school was so successful that it was invited to give its musical program in neighboring towns. As this school of music was held in the winter and real flowers were not available they made roses of tissue paper and wreaths of evergreen.

The first musical instrument used in the chapel was a small melodeon purchased by Daniel Frost and Nathaniel Blodgett, who went to Winchester, N. H., to get it. No one knew how to play it, so Mr. Blodgett pasted the letters on the keyboard and by assiduous application was able to play two tunes upon it himself, the next Sunday. The communion set still in use at the chapel was bought mainly through the efforts of the Frost family. The baptismal font was given by Helen Frost Corliss, a daughter of Daniel Frost. The organ that succeeded the little melodeon in 1868 was a pipe organ.

Mrs. Mary Frye Pike remembers going to the chapel when it was on the hill at the Frost place. Mrs. Fannie Daniels and Miss M. L. C. Blodgett remember watching the procession of slowly moving oxen under the guidance of Milton Bliss when the chapel was moved to its present location. Mrs. Daniels, in her younger days, used to slide from the roof of the chapel down the hill of snow and ice that accumulated, to the ground. The building and the land on which it now stands have been deeded to the Congregational society by the Blodgett family and Loring Shaw.

At the close of the 12 years mentioned previously when no records were kept, a re-organization was effected. This was October 3rd, 1866. Rev. J. H. Garmon of Lebanon, Maine, was pastor. Delegates from Athol, Orange, Royalston, South Royalston, Phillipston, Templeton, and Wendell participated. Fifteen members entered the church at this time by letter and two by profession. Mrs. Maria Bliss Harnden of Minneapolis, Minn., is the only one still living, of the charter members of this re-organized church of 1866. During the pastorate of Mr. Garmon 14 united with the church by profession of faith. Twenty-five dollars contributed by Mrs. Clarke of Royalston were used in purchasing the present seats of the chapel. Mr. Garmon's pastorate closed in 1881.

He was succeeded by Rev. E. Squires of Warwick, who preached here until 1885. A Dr. Pierce of Phillipston preached for a time.

Rev. W. N. Richardson of the Methodist church, Athol, began to supply the chapel in 1888. The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was organized during his pastorate, June 2, 1889. Through his influence the chapel was remodeled and repaired. He furnished the present windows on condition that the renovating be completed. Mrs. Louisa A. Closson of Plainfield, N. J., sister of Pastor Garmon, gave \$100 toward the repairs. The tower was added

and the side porch of the original building removed. The chapel bell was presented by Zina H. Goodell, who was superintendent of the Sunday school at that time. A \$125 cabinet organ was the gift of Miss M. L. Corliss, daughter of the inventor of the Corliss engine.

Rev. George W. Judson of Orange Congregational church succeeded Mr. Richardson, and Rev. J. N. Shipman of Athol Baptist church supplied for a time; in 1899 Rev. William Harris of Truro supplied for a time, and in August, 1900, it was voted to hire four ministers for a year, to supply alternately, namely, Rev. Rolla G. Bugbee of Athol, Revs. Christopher Collier and Daniel Moore of Orange, and the pastor of the Methodist church at Athol.

Pastors from Warwick, Athol and Orange were engaged to supply at the chapel as they could be engaged, from this time until June, 1914, when the church decided to co-operate with the Baptist church of Royalston in hiring a student from Newton Theological seminary, to supply their pulpits.

The later pastors have been Rev. D. W. Lyman, Rev. D. H. Woodward, Rev. Thomas Kinney, Rev. C. S. Nightingale, Rev. John Graham, Rev. Harvey H. Paine, Rev. John Wriston, Rev. John Forrest; and the student pastors from Newton, Mr. Harold W. Curtis of Belchertown, Massachusetts, Mr. Ross R. Eaton of Nova Scotia, and at present Mr. Gordon G. Ward of Gainesville, Ga.

During the pastorate of Rev. H. H. Paine the chapel was replastered and for four Sundays services were held under the trees opposite the church on Miss Blodgett's property.

## BRANCHING OUT

In 1915, the annex was built. The Ladies' Aid society by their industry and labor raised the money, \$300, required to build the annex. Some of the men gave their day's work. The new room is used for a dining room and place for socials. A kitchen has since been completed beneath the dining room. The Ladies' Aid recently planned the purchase of a new piano, the men of the church to pay half and the ladies half.

The loving labors that go to maintain the temples of the living God and the life of organized Christian worship, will do more than warfare to establish peace, righteousness and prosperity on earth. It is for us to give ourselves to the propagation and upbuilding of such work as the churches are engaged in with a spirit and an effort commensurate with that of our fathers. It is after all mainly by the quiet, earnest, faithful work that has built and maintained Christian worship and Christian character that the everlasting kingdom of the Prince of Peace is to come.

Rev. H. W. Curtis. August 9, 1917

With pleasure and pardonable pride, Orange watched the growth of her offspring. As years passed and the daughter in the southern part grew considerably larger, the word North was more and more often affixed to Orange when speaking of the northern part of the town and in 1845 the parent town was definitely named North Orange and the daughter in the south took the parent's name, Orange.

## NORTH ORANGE

Beautiful for situation is North Orange, encircled by hills which

"God hath made the haunt of beauty,  
The home elect of His grace.  
He spreadeth His mornings on them  
His sunsets light their face."

The hills of Richmond, Royalston, Petersham, Athol and Warwick form an





THE FLAGG HOUSE

inner circle while from Monadnock through the Watatics, Wachusett and the wavy lines of the Holyoke range sweeps a more distant girdle of uplifted summits. North Orange is truly a hill town having Flagg's and Temple hills in the north, Beech hill, Pitts hill and Pine hill in the west. To the south is West hill with its "Sentinel Elm." To the east are Tully and Little Tully, between which are two ponds,—Tully pond and Paekard pond. Most of the hills are of considerable elevation and each commands a pleasing prospect both near and distant, but Tully rising mound-like from level ground, presents a marked contrast to the sharp ridges of the other hills and is the most picturesque object in the landscape. Between the hills lie grassy intervals and meadows. From the character of the land called in early days "The Plains,"\* we judge that the early settlers so named it, not with our idea of level lands in general, but with the more restricted meaning with which they used the word "Plains," applying that term to well-defined tracts that had "some peculiarity of soil and condition, were nearly free from trees and could be readily cultivated." Tully brook and West brook are the two largest streams; these with Cheney brook, and many smaller brooks add to the beauty of the scenery.

North Orange has always been a farming town, the farms comprising arable land, mowing and meadow for hay-making, pasture for grazing and woodland. The arable land responds to proper tillage, with good crops of grain, fruits and vegetables. Nathan Goddard, Sylvanus Ward "who never did anything by halves" and whose large farm included several occupied by others in more recent times, Hananiah Temple, Zina Goodell, Alexander Wheelock, Ebenezer Cheney, James Mills near the Nathaniel Cheney farm, Joseph Metcalf, Benjamin Dexter and Elijah Ball were some of those who carried on the most extensive farms

\* Tully.

in early days. Of Captain Ebenezer Goddard, Mr. Albee Smith writes, "he was the best and most thorough farmer in Orange; nothing was neglected nor left undone, not a rod of fence nor a thing on the farm was out of order when we moved on to the place in 1851; doors, bar-ways, apple trees, sugar spouts, buckets and tubs, to the most trivial detail, were in readiness for immediate use." Captain Goddard built his house from bricks made from a clay pit on the side hill east of the house and extending down to the brook. "Every rain would wash this clay into the brook and in a very few minutes the water would look like milk."

Corn, rye, oats, and wheat were once the leading crops with peas, beans, barley, buckwheat and hops in smaller quantities. At present special attention is given to the cultivation of apples, strawberries and raspberries which with blueberries from Nature's garden find a ready market. The thrifty young apple orchards recently planted by Mr. Haley and Harold Lawrence speak well not only for the fruit-growing qualities of the soil, but for the enterprise of the planters as well.

Among the native trees are the pine, hemlock, spruce, cedar, willow, poplar, walnut, hickory, birch, hornbeam, beech, chestnut, oak, elm, cherry, maple and basswood. The original forest growth was cleared away many years ago, but by reason of a soil particularly adapted to the growth of timber trees, North Orange hills were again clad with the verdure of fine forests, many of which have been cut to appease the demands for lumber and other wood products.

Seldom do we see now a sugar orchard. More often we see a row of maple trees by the highway or defining some portion of a farm. It was a pleasant custom of early days to thus mark the boundary of road or farm section. In these lines of maples stand veteran trees bearing scars of generous service in the springtime sweetening of humanity.

When speaking of the grace, beauty and romance of North Orange elms, there comes to mind first the "Signal Elm" or as it has been called in more recent years, the "Sentinel Elm" whose destruction would bring to many a sense of personal loss. From old times comes down the story of an elm that grew from a riding stick. In those carriageless days long since when everyone traveled on horseback, "John Ellis, grandfather of Seth Ellis, while conversing with a neighbor, stuck his 'whip stick,' (a branch from an elm tree,) into the ground. Left there, the branch took root, flourished and developed into the large tree that once stood near the south-west corner of Goddard Park."\* For many years the "Ellis Elm" added its charm to the landscape, but weakened by storm and wind, it at last succumbed to the elements some years ago.

Rarely, beside the road or in an old yard, we find mulberry trees bearing fruit rather unpalatable to humans, but especially attractive to birds. These half-wild trees so evidently strangers to the native trees excite our curiosity as to how they came here. Some that stood on the Oliver Ward place, a little south of the present Overview, were cut down not long ago. Were they survivors of the eraze over silk culture that followed the effort of our National Congress to establish the culture of silk on a firm basis? National attention to the raising of silk-worms enlisted general attention in 1835. "Thousands of individuals," says L. H. Bailey, purchased mulberry cuttings and planted many acres of valuable land," the leaves of the mulberry being the preferable food of the silk-worm. "For a time there was the wildest speculation in the setting and planting of mulberry trees and in the raising of silkworms," but "the bubble soon burst," as far as Massachusetts was concerned for heavy freezes destroyed the mulberry plantations, thus removing the first requisite in the culture of

\* Told to Mr. Albee Smith by his grandmother, Mrs. Sylvanus Ward.





THE JOHNSON PLACE

silk-worms,—an ample supply of foliage. In a few years the excitement died away and silk culture in New England was practically abandoned. When the State of Massachusetts offered a bounty of fifteen cents a pound on the cocoons and fifty cents a pound on the reeled silk, some Franklin county people were induced to engage in the industry. It is known that in 1843, Asa Moore of North Orange kept silkworms and the occasional presence of mulberry trees in North Orange, suggests the question, how many other farmers here experimented in silk culture.

## Schools

North Orange "heeds no skeptic's hands,  
While near her school the church-spire stands;  
Nor fears the blinded bigot's rule,  
While near her church-spire stands the school."

The old turnpike still rises and falls over the hills between Athol and Warwick and beside it stand meeting house, school-house and oldtime houses—memorials of the energy of the stout-hearted men who with church and school, laid the foundation of North Orange. The early settlers had been trained in "love of liberty, respect for the laws, habits of industry and the practice of the moral and religious obligations." Clear-minded they visioned the future and saw that, as Governor Lincoln said nearly fifty years later, "a government founded on the popular will and resting exclusively for support upon public opinion, can be maintained no longer than the people are able to comprehend their rights and are enlightened in the proper manner of their adoption." For such enlightenment education was necessary and prompt measures were taken for the education of the youth of the district.

"There is no reason to doubt," wrote Mr. Samuel Dexter, "that a school was opened on the street before 1750 and at least two others, one in the valley northwest of Tully Mountain and one about one fourth of a mile west of the Sylvester Davis residence, previous to 1780." The first public provision for schools was made in 1784 when 30 pounds were raised for "schooling." In 1785 the sum of 50 pounds was voted for the same purpose. In March, 1786, a

committee chosen to report the best method to be followed in providing schools, recommended "that each school ward build them a school-house at their own cost," and at a legal meeting 1787, there were appointed to carry on the construction of five school-houses, various men, from three to five being assigned to each of the five wards. By another vote 15 men, three from each ward, were appointed to provide teachers for the schools. At a meeting in 1799, April 1, (meeting adjourned from the March meeting,) it was voted to raise \$1000 for building and repairing school-houses. That there had been redistricting between 1789 and 1799, is shown by the appointment of men from each of seven districts as a committee for the building and repair of school-houses. At the same meeting there was appointed a visiting school committee,—Dr. Gilbert, Joseph Procter and William Cheney; also a committee of seven men, one from each district, to procure teachers.

The hopeful beginnings in education developed steadily, schools flourished and attendance was largely increased in the thirties of the last century. The late Mrs. Ballou's comment on the families of that period, namely that "some families had a regiment of children and others, a company," easily accounting for this increase. Summer school was taught by a woman; winter school, by a man and woe be unto him who in stature and strength did not satisfy the first day's scrutiny of the students. In such a case, North Orange schools, following the custom of other rural districts, sometimes "threw out" the teacher appointed for the winter term. This was especially true of one district, but, said a neighbor with voice and manner expressive of pride, "Philbrook Worrick was never thrown out when he taught there." Of Wales Cheney she said, "He taught ten winters in one district and there was never any fuss there." When Percival Blodgett died in 1839, it was written of him "He was one of those we meet with as rarely as the precious gem that glistens in the sunbeam." Lack of space forbids the pleasure of naming all the teachers of high moral standards, who gave faithful service, inculcating first of all, obedience, respect for authority, that first step towards the law-abiding citizenship that has always characterized North Orange. Far more easy would it be to name North Orange inhabitants who have not taught, for nearly every son and daughter of the place has taught school at one time or another.

As years passed, public educators found in the district school system sources of evil which they thought could be removed only by abolishing the system and in the spring of 1859 the Massachusetts Legislature abolished this time-honored institution, only to restore it in the fall of the same year. Again abolished in 1869, it was partially restored the next year on the petition of a few towns. An institution that had found favor with the people since 1789 was hard to kill and it was not until 1883 that the district school system was finally abolished and schools restored to the care of the town subject to the laws of the state. The Legislative Act of 1869 permitting towns at public expense to convey children to and from public schools enabled the school committee to merge small schools into large ones, but the first step was taken in the Act of 1850, instructing towns how to dispose of their school-houses if they abolished the districts and it was with real sorrow that we saw one after another of the small school-houses sold and removed until at present, but two school-houses,—one on the street and one in Tully, remain.

Grant the charges brought against the little red school-houses,—that they were undesirably located, each one close beside the road, that they were small, poorly ventilated, uncomfortable, but grant also that these little red school-houses are rich in precious memories; that they were "the nurseries of New England's greatness"; that in the little red school-houses of this village were developed those trustworthy people who in the north, south, east and west have



THE BLODGETT HOME

## HOME

By NANCY BYRD TURNER

I want to have a little house  
With sunlight on the floor,  
A chimney with a rosy hearth,  
And lilacs by the door;

With windows looking east and west,  
And a crooked apple tree,  
And room beside the garden fence  
For hollyhocks to be.

Oh, all my life I've wandered round,  
But the heart is quick at knowing  
Its own roof and its own bush  
And its own boughs blowing.

And when I find that little house—  
At noon or dusk or dawn—  
I'll walk right in and light the fire  
And put the kettle on!



THE HARRINGTON PLACE



THE GOODELL PLACE BUILT IN 1790



shared the world's work and who, in business, in teaching, in the medical profession, in law, in the ministry, in patriotic service of whatever kind, have accounted worthily for the existence of North Orange while ever in their hearts they have kept burning the flame of love for their native town and its little red school-houses—potent factor in shaping their lives.

The little red school-house in Blissville which was sold for \$13 in 1908, was not the first one in that locality. The first one stood a little farther north, just the other side of the bridge. It was probably the one alluded to by Mr. Dexter as the one established northwest of Tully mountain before 1780. This building was lost to sight and memory long ago, but Mr. Albee Smith says in his reminiscences, that the big timber sills of the school-house were still on the old ground in 1858 and holes had been made in them for salt. Stephen Ward used to fill these holes with salt for his sheep, "sheep occupying a place in his heart next to his children and next to his sheep stood the pair of big oxen which he always kept."



THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE AT BLISSVILLE WHERE THE  
THREE R'S WERE RELIGIOUSLY TAUGHT

The second school-house in the north district was built on land given by Mrs. Humphrey Smith; this land was originally a part of the farm of her father, Sylvanus Ward. It is of this second school-house that Mr. Albee Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Humphrey Smith, wrote the following interesting article in 1909.

"The boyhood's school district is the one particular locality—the one picture painted on the memory, which never fades, never grows dim, but grows clearer and brighter as the years go by; no scenery is half so attractive, half so fine as that of one's early home country—he carries it with him, looks at it often and long,—all that made up the world at one time to him, clusters about this picture, he never tires of it, is always proud of it, loves it and will carry it to his grave. It is allowable, I believe, for every member of a college class to think his class the best class of the seven with which it associated and every college man is of the opinion that his Alma Mater is the best college institution for a student to attend, of all the universities in the country.

One of the first impressions that I received of a quasi general character was that the school district of Orange known as Number Five to which I belonged, was the best district, contained the best scholars, and best teachers of any district of the town,—an hallucination no doubt, but a pardonable one in a boy of the age I was when our school committee used to tell us on their periodical visits that our district was proud of its record and it depended upon us, then pupils, whether it was to remain the best in the town or lose its proud place in the ranks, because of our shortcomings; well,—these may have been only fish stories, but children, you know implicitly believe everything that is told them—as a rule. Be that as it may, I am not to speak for other districts of the town, nor to make any

invidious comparisons but as a sort of a representative of that body of men and women which made up this school district from 1849 to 1858—nine years.

During these nine years of which I speak this district was composed of families of the following men: John Flagg, Lemuel Goddard, Mason Goddard, Milton Bliss, Charles Goddard, Calvin Woodward, Humphrey Smith, Israel Lamb, the widow of Artemus Collar, Stephen Ward, Joseph Putnam, Rev. Levi Ballou, Seth Ellis and Abraham Harrington; temporarily the families of Simon Harrington; Edward Goddard, Mr. Kneeland, Mr. Cleveland, Charles Goddard and Otis Brooks also resided in this district. All these gentlemen and their wives and many of their children have gone to their rest; of them all—young and old—who were residents of this district during this time, the only one now living in the district in Nelson Harrington.

During my second winter there, the winter 1850 and 1851, as nearly as I can count them, there were thirty-nine pupils in attendance—quite in contrast to the present showing,—yet the little red school-house by the bridge is still there just as it used to be,—how well do I recall its white trimmings, its board blinds, its open curb top wood shed, and the high stone step at the door,—how well the beech tree, the little clump of hazel bushes—that never bore any fruit—and the apple tree that Augustus Bliss cut down,—the cool spring by the big broken rock under the maples—the wide, pond-like pool of water in the brook under and below the bridge—the steep hill where we used to slide down in winter,—the ball grounds where we played ball in summer and the three cornered "goal" composed of a stone wall on one line of the angle and a fence rail for each of the other two that the boys and girls used in playing that exciting game of "Pengool".—I recall as yesterday seeing Harwood Proctor—about six feet tall and not over heavy, standing grinning and regretful, in the middle of the road in front of the school-house, while four angry girls were reading him a lecture for having steered the large sled upon which they were all seated, over the bank wall into a big snow bank in the meadow; if Harwood was not sorry for what he had done, he appeared to be,—and if the girls were not teeming with rage their expressions of face and language were deceptive; if my memory serves me correctly those four girls were Eunice and Mary Flagg, Emily Goddard and Esther Harrington. I remember too, the "spelling" and "speaking" schools we used to have in winter—they chose sides and spelled down; all were chosen to spell but the best spellers of course, were chosen first,—I have a painful recollection that I was the last or the last but one chosen and invariably one of the first to sit down—but we had some good spellers there, and I could name them, but having indicated the poorest one, will let it go at that; there were two or three pupils who could not be spelled down by the use the North American Spelling book in use at that time: on one occasion the party giving out the words became discouraged and put out the word, pronounced "roekalor" but spelled "roquelaure;" of course the speller dropped. On another occasion the word gniss was made use of with the same result; pupils from adjoining districts used to attend these spelling schools; I well recall Joseph Gillson from Warwick—he was one, too, who couldn't be spelled down only by such a method as mentioned above. At these meetings funny pieces and dialogues were recited, sometimes in a sort of costume; on one occasion a small youth came in from the entry wearing a long swayback sword to give him a more fierce appearance, the sword was longer than he was; that young boy afterwards became a soldier in '63 and gave up his life to preserve, for you and me, our common country. I remember Francis Temple reciting a piece evidently written to show the irregular features of our language—in it words ending in "ough" frequently appeared, and all were pronounced by him as in the word "though." One of the expressions was "the meat was very toe" and "the path was very roe"—another recited the song of the pump handle; I have



THE TULLY SCHOOL

heard how "Spartacus stepped forth and thus addressed them," and how poor old Berardo Delecarpio wailed at the sight of the glassy eyes of his dead father, and Daniel Webster tell of the glories of Massachusetts, in that little red school-house in bursts of eloquence that would make those gentlemen blush if they were ever to be supposed to have themselves thus orated.

Up to the time U. P. Smith taught the school it was the custom for the boys to bring their caps into the school room and it was quite a nuisance; he put up some nails in the entry and pasted a letter at each one and each boy chose his letter, a few of those letters were still there as he placed them, when I last visited this school-house in 1883. He made and put up the wooden blackboard which was also there in 1883.

It was about 1856 that the district came to own any personal property. They provided at that time Webster's dictionary—it was new and carefully covered with heavy light brown or yellow wrapping paper,—the temptation to write on it was too strong for Augustus Bliss—and he wrote in large letters on the front lid "Daniel Webster's Dictionary." Abby Ward, the teacher, seeing it and recognizing the penmanship, took Augustus to task for it and ended her remarks by saying, "It isn't Daniel Webster, but Noah Webster, who is the author." It was a great surprise to me to learn this, for I had never heard of Noah Webster, but Daniel Webster's name was a household word at that time and place, and I supposed he was the author of this work. I was glad not to have exposed my ignorance.

In those days it was the custom to have some pupil point out from an atlas or drawing on the blackboard the states and their capitals, beginning with Maine, the scholars in a concert pronouncing each state and its capital twice; it fixed in their minds the state, the New England, Middle, Southern and Western States and their capitals, and it was of great value to them. One time the teacher had each pupil who had reached "Geography" draw a map of some one state; these, when done, were placed upon this long wooden blackboard, in their proper place; the state of Maine with its ragged boundary fell to a youth who drew it on a large sheet of blue writing paper; when the teacher put it upon the board with the rest, he had placed it bottom side up, the boy discovered it, which no one else could have done, and called attention to the mistake—to the

great amusement of the teacher and pupils. They used to say the names of the presidents, also in concert and sometimes used to sing, but never read from the Bible nor had any religious exercise, though at this time there were no laws excluding the Bible from the public schools of America.

All these things are a part and parcel of that old school-house; and what of the teachers? Are they not a part of it also, and a large part? My lady teachers, there were Ellin Davis, the late Mrs. Stowell, who was my first teacher, sixty years ago this month. I still have the large size enamel decorated card with her name written upon it by herself which she gave me at the close of the school; I was three years old. The only thing I remembered of the school was this kind-hearted lady raising my head from the seat upon which I had gone to sleep and placing her folded shawl under it for a pillow; for this act I have always remembered her and always loved her, though I only saw her once and at a distance, after this school closed, during her life. How far a little tenderness and kindness goes with a child! My next lady teacher was Louisa Blodgett whom every child delighted to be with; she was always pleasant and gracious. I also have her card given me at the close of her term with her name written upon it in pencil. The next, Abby Ward, who taught, I think, five consecutive summers; my next was Julia Putnam, who I have always thought, taught me more and helped me along with my studies better than did anyone else in that old school-house. My last lady teacher was Harriet Goddard (Mrs. John Lord, Athol) the only one of them all now living. The male teachers, of whom there were nine, were Warren Ellis, Adwell White, Horace Ward, Uzziel P. Smith, Alphonso A. Ballou, Daniel Harrington, Benjamin W. Mayo, James B. Smith and Ebenezer Proctor,—of these, eight were living at the time of the Civil war—five of whom were in and through that war; those were U. P. Smith, Ballou, Mayo, J. S. Smith and Proctor, as I believe, and all of whom are living save Horace Ward, who died soon after his term and Ellis, Mayo and Proctor, who died recently. I should be glad to speak of these men as I remember them and think of them now but this pleasure I will forego; they are held in the kindest remembrance, and occupy a warm place in my heart.

What class of people make more warm, lifelong friends than school teachers? They may forget their pupils, but their pupils do not forget them; our teachers grow with us nearer and nearer as we grow. How it delights us to entertain them at our table and talk over old times; with what freedom and abandon we enter into conversation with them—our confidence in their friendship, our faith in their honor, our assurance of their interest in us and remaining attachment for us, makes renewed associations with them charming and delightful; these beloved teachers, then, are a part of that old school-house.

Now, what of the pupils of my day? I will give their names by families, beginning at John Flagg's—Eunice, Mary, Martha and George,—all at rest save Eunice, now a resident of Orange; at the home of Lemuel Goddard at different times were Elsie Cresser, Asa and Ebenezer Kneeland, Virgil Goddard, now of Athol, Artemus Goddard, son of Edward Goddard, two daughters of Mr. Cleveland also from Athol. Mason Goddard sent his four daughters, Martha, Sophia, Harriet, and Emily, all of whom are still alive and reside in or near Orange. Quite in contrast with this family is the next family, that of Milton Bliss, whose first family consisting of seven—Stephen, Maria, Augustus, Aaron, Joseph, Christopher and Charles, the only one now living being Maria; Stephen died, aged eight, in 1849, his coffin being the first one I ever saw; Augustus died in the hospital in the Potomac army, a member of the 36th Massachusetts Regiment; Aaron and his wife, Luella Goodale, also of North Orange—Joseph, Christopher, Charles, and Maria's oldest son, are all buried in Lakewood cemetery, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the banks of the two lakes, Harriet and Calhoun





THE NORTH ORANGE SCHOOLHOUSE  
BUILT IN 1831

where I have two children buried; I acted as pall bearer for five of this family; from this same house came the daughter of Charles Goddard, Netty, whose mother, Mrs. Stratton, subsequently lived in Athol, then came the two sons of Calvin Woodward, Elbridge and Frank, both deceased, as I am informed,—then came the large family of Humphrey Smith, five sons and two daughters, who attended that school during this period,—Uzziel, Augusta, James, Dwight, Abner, myself and Caroline; Everett was not old enough to attend school when we moved to Middlebury, Vermont, in the spring of 1858,—of those attending, all are now alive except Augusta, who died in Chicago in 1905 and is buried in the same lot with our parents in Oakwood cemetery, Chicago; her first husband, David D. Mellen, of the 52d Massachusetts Regiment, was killed at Port Hudson, Mississippi, in 1863; her second husband, who survives her, was Walter H. Lamb of the 25th Massachusetts Regiment of Templeton. She was the only pupil to lose a husband in the Civil war; but Henry Goddard, who died in a hospital, Henry Mayo, who was killed in battle, and Nelson Smith, who received a wound from which he died,—all from North Orange and in the 36th Massachusetts Regiment,—were each engaged to be married at the time of their deaths to young ladies whose names appear herein. Then we reach Israel Lamb, whose daughter, Frances attended, generally, then Chandler Collar, son of the widow of Artemus Collar, whose old home I have no doubt is entirely obliterated from view; returning to the main road the next family was that of Stephen Ward, and those attending from there were Preston, Abby and Edmund, all dead. Edmund fell in battle near Richmond, Virginia, in 1864, a member of the 36th Massachusetts Regiment, across the road at the old Sylvanus Ward homestead, when we lived there in 1849, Simon Harrington occupied a part of the house and his daughter, Josephine, was a pupil; we come now to the home of Joseph Putnam,—Jane, Julia, Angelia, and George,—the only surviving one is Angelia, your Mrs. Oliver; the Ellis family, though large, was not represented in my day. The Rev. Summer Ellis, their youngest child, went away to school about the time I began—but two grandsons of Seth Ellis were from that family—Cheney and Francis

Temple—whom we always thought of as sons of Seth Ellis; in 1857 Otis Brooks occupied the Ellis place and his son, A. E. Brooks, became a pupil; on the opposite side of the road was the old home of John Ellis—"Old John Ellis," the grandfather of Seth,—and in this house lived in the days of which I speak, the Rev. Levi Ballou, whose two daughters, Mary and Cornelia, attended this school; Mary (Mrs. Emery, late of Orange), was one of the brightest pupils and was so recognized, that ever attended that school during those years; we now reach the end of this list. The family of Abraham Harrington, consisting of six, Ansel, Asa, Daniel, Nelson, Mary, deceased; Nelson, as I have said before, being the only person, young or old, pupil or not, during my residence in the district, who now resides within it.

Among all these pupils there have been but one marriage, that of Asa Harrington and Jane Putnam, and, furthermore, there have been but five intermarriages among the pupils in this district since the district was first occupied by white men, so far as I have been able to ascertain; Ashbel Ward, the oldest son of Sylvanus, the first settler, married a sister of Capt. Ebenezer Goddard, and his brother, Oliver Ward, married Olive, a daughter of Asa Albee, for his second wife. The other two were in the next generation; Milton Bliss married a sister of Charles Goddard and Charles Goddard married Lydia Bliss, Milton's sister.

The business carried on in those years there was exclusively farming, except Mr. Bliss had a saw-mill and did a general contracting business, and Humphrey Smith had an outside business dealing in live stock; it was a quiet neighborhood, never had any startling events, nor had it any bright stars, but the stars it did have gave a steady and reliable glow. There was not a family nor a member of a family that was not a regular and habitual attendant at church; there was not a boy nor a girl who ever gave a teacher any trouble in the school, nor was there one who was not the equal socially of all the rest and welcome at any table in the district.

Those in our district known as "old people" were Lemuel Goddard and his wife, Zuba, Mrs. Bliss, Milton's mother, Capt. Ebenezer Goddard and his wife, Mrs. Collar, and Hannah Ward, my grandmother and widow of Sylvanus Ward. Those of the district who became soldiers were Edmund Ward, Augustus Bliss, Artemus Goddard, Asa and Ebenezer Kneeland, U. P., J. B. and H. Dwight Smith, and possibly some others who were temporarily connected with the district of whom I have no knowledge. It has often been attempted to frame language adequate to express what we owe those young men who went out from among us to maintain the government in '61, 2, and 3, but it is not within our power to do that; some of us remember them and know what they left behind and somewhat of their deprivations and sufferings that while we have been living our lives of vigor and prosperity, many of those boys have been in their graves, cut off in early life amidst the brightest prospects and highest hopes for their expected lives, surrounded by homes with every comfort and its many pleasures and friends. No man can do more for another than to offer his own life in the other's service; let us remember this whenever we remember the departed soldier, as well as whenever we see an old soldier entitled to wear the copper button of the Grand Army, whether he be rich or poor, strong or weak, drunk or sober, we are his debtor to an extent greater than we shall ever be able to pay.

I first ask myself how much do I, personally, owe to that body of men and women whom I have herein mentioned; they gave character to the environments of my youth—they were those environments,—their sober and steady habits, their faithful and neighborly conduct, their thrifty and modest sentiments, their high standard of personal honor, their Christian leanings, their love and regard for education and extended acquirements, their self-respect and keen appreciation of all good things, their clean and elevated speech and conver-

sation, their noble example in all directions created the atmosphere in which I lived and which I breathed from day to day during these first nine years of my school days. Perhaps those who are familiar with the squalor and crime of the world, of the wretchedness, the depravity, the hardships, the poor,—extravagance, the gilded dissipations and the selfish strife of the rich, and who have at their command the statistics of child-life, and know the chances that come to those born under such surroundings, can answer this question; I cannot. All I can do is to feel a profound gratitude to that Divine Providence which surrounded my youth with such influences. Let us not forget that we are largely the creatures of influence and environments, especially those which temper and direct our early development. We see in the Bible several expressions emphasizing the moderate means and hidden powers made use of in the creation and development of the universe—such as “God’s hidden power,” “He buildeth his house upon foundations under the water,” etc. Some of his wonderful works are seen only through the microscope, we will call them microscopic,—the starry heavens and movements of the planets and systems are telescopic and wonderful but the innumerable animalcula in a drop of impure water, the mechanism of the smallest insect as seen only through a microscope is far more wonderful, the proboscis of a fly when thus seen is far more wonderful than that of the elephant.

There are men who might be called “telescopic men,” not so very often in evidence nor very many of them, and men who might be called “microscopic men,” of which the world is full. It was these microscopic men who fired the gun at Lexington that sounded around the world, that established our independence, that directed our system of legislation, that met in convention at Philadelphia and gave us our constitution, that built our school houses, that saved our union in the sixties,—they were God fearing men but not priest-ridden men, they were the “foundation under the water”—they were, and are the strength, the hope of our national life; it would be interesting to trace the growth and the decay of the nations of the world from and by the influence of these microscopic men. Briefly and finally I say, then, that the highest type of men, those to whom the world owes most, is that type to which this class of men and women of whom I am speaking today, belong. All that is permanent and healthy is found in them; they are sound to the core; they are the old guard which not only build but build, defend, and maintain that which gives stability and value to things; they are the power behind the throne; they are those who stand for good government, Christianity, law and order, decency in all things, the greatest good to the greatest number, peace and progress—and good will to men.”

*Albee Smith, 1909.*

Mrs. Fuller who wrote the following poem was a daughter of Harvey Goddard and one of the teachers in District No. 5.

#### ORIGINAL POEM BY MRS. E. A. FULLER

Roll back the mists of time and space,  
And let sweet recollection trace  
Those days we all remember well—  
We see the school house painted red,  
The arch and entrance in the shed  
And hear again the old school bell.

We almost feel the fresh crisp breeze,  
And hear the birds sing in the trees,  
As to the dear old school we haste,  
Now entering see the old back seat  
With jack knife carvings, hard to beat,  
And many a name with pencil traced.

Now here's the slate we ciphered on—  
The algebra we used to con;  
For mathematics was the game.  
And many the roots, both cube and square  
We worked out on the blackboard there  
While youthful knowledge was our aim.

And there's the line they used to toe,  
The boys and girls of long ago  
Standing in life's fair morn  
And passing by as in review  
We see our teachers, tried and true,  
Tho more than two score years have gone.

Ah! mingled with our joy today  
Come thoughts of loved ones passed away  
Brothers and sisters long since gone.  
And while we face the sunset time  
With gladsome hope, and faith sublime  
We'll wait to hear the word “School's done.”

August 10, 1911.

#### SOME COLLEGE GRADUATES

Jonathan Woodward, Samuel Temple, Grindall Ellis, Abner Cheney, Abner Morton, Alpheus Baker, Elijah Ball, Hyder Ali Ball, John Cheney, Harrison Lord, ———— Moore, Cyrus Chapin, Charles Chapin, Uzziel P. Smith, James B. Smith, Albee Smith, Abner Smith, Henry Dwight Smith, John Q. Adams, Wallace Mayo, Clifford D. Newton.

#### Library

Supplementing the public schools as an agency in the mental and moral training of the pupils, is the North Orange Branch Library. No trace has been found of the old tradition that a free public library existed in the northern part of the town before 1800. Most of the earliest libraries in America have disappeared. Orange library, if it ever did exist, may have been one of these. In this country the free public library came into favor very slowly, libraries maintained by shareholders and annual subscribers predominating until 1876. The district school library movement was the original impulse of the law passed in Massachusetts in 1851, allowing cities and towns to establish and maintain public libraries. Eight years later “the Hon. Davis Goddard presented the town of Orange \$100 as a nucleus for the formation of a town library; the town by vote added \$200” and “December 14, 1859 a library was opened to all residents of the town.” Books were sent from the library to North Orange for the reading public there. In 1883 there was quite a collection of books in the house of Philbrook Worrick. Later the people of North Orange sent directly to the library for books; these were taken to North Orange at the expense of the town. For transporting the 358 books drawn by North Orange people during the year ending February 2, 1895, M. D. Herrick was paid \$40 and A. W. Martin, \$6.

At this time the library trustees,—W. M. King, W. M. Pomeroy, A. E. Emery, Mrs. F. S. Ewing, G. P. Sherwin and A. W. Martin,—took under consideration the benefits and obligations which would result to the town if the bequest of the late Mrs. A. P. Goddard were accepted. The bequest reads:—Tenth. I give the town of Orange, the sum of three thousand dollars in money. And I direct that sum, or the income thereof, as the executors or executor of this will may in their or his discretion direct, shall be expended under the super-





FRANKLIN GODDARD

vision and advice of said executors or executor, in the purchase of books for the public library of said town, provided always and on the express condition that all books so purchased shall have their permanent place of deposit, and constitute a part of the public library and be forever located in that part of said town called North Orange. Hamilton S. Mayo, the executor of Mrs. Goddard's will "declared his purpose not to give any advice nor instruction as to the expenditure of the money should the bequest be accepted by the town." But the trustees were advised "that the probate court would appoint a trustee of the fund, with the same power and duties as an executor would have."

In order to find out what the duties of the town would be if the legacy were accepted, the trustees consulted District Attorney John A. Aiken at Greenfield. Reasoning that if the bequest be accepted, "the town is bound to provide at North Orange a suitable place for books purchased with the bequest to engage a custodian to care for them and is bound to do what else may be reasonably necessary to make the legacy available," Mr. Aiken concluded by saying, "I think the town better not accept the bequest," because he thought the town would get more for its money by buying books for the existing town library where they would be available to *all* residents of the town, than by expending the same sum in compliance with the conditions and requirements of the bequest.

In view of these facts, the trustees at a meeting held February 5, 1895, voted to recommend the town not to accept the legacy of Mrs. Goddard for the library, "its terms being considered too onerous to the town for the limited benefits conferred." The only dissenting vote was cast by Alonzo W. Martin, the member from North Orange, who wished the gift to be accepted. Two members of the Board, A. E. Emery and Mrs. Ewing, were absent from the meeting.

Later through the earnest efforts of Rev. Charles Conklin, the current of popular opinion turned in favor of acceptance of Mrs. Goddard's legacy and at its annual meeting the next month, (March), the town voted to accept the

bequest and in accordance with that vote, a branch library was opened at North Orange in October, 1895, with Mrs. Sara E. Rich, Librarian.

Failing health caused the closing of Alonzo W. Martin's connection with the library as trustee in 1923 and Mr. Floyd French was appointed as Mr. Martin's successor.

Fortunately the duty of a librarian is not now what James Russell Lowell said it was formerly,—“that of a watch dog to keep people as much as possible away from the books and to hand them over to his successor as little worn by use as he could.” The library that supplements the school in teaching good reading and that stimulates improvement of the people must have not only good books, but a faithful librarian willing to help in the choice of reading.

Through the kindness of such a librarian we are able to give the accompanying tribute to the late Mrs. A. P. Goddard who made it possible for North Orange, to have a free public library.

### Tribute to Mrs. Asula P. Goddard

At the home gathering of North Orange, our thoughts, naturally go out to those who, either by their words or works, live in the hearts of the people and while we speak with pride of Sumner Ellis and Jonathan Forrester and many others, we cannot forget the plain, unassuming, rather eccentric lady who provided for a library generously and who has given better than she herself could have realized.

Our North Orange branch library is a lasting monument to the memory of Mrs. Goddard. By her will \$3,000 was to be expended as the executors of the will should advise. It was determined that \$1,000 should be taken for the purchase of books and the interest of the \$2,000 to be taken annually for the purchase of new books. A room was hired by the town, also a librarian and carefully and wisely the library committee of Orange expended a little over the \$1,000. Ten hundred and seventy-six books formed the nucleus of the



MRS. ASULA P. GODDARD

library which was opened to the public October 3, 1895. Since that time over two hundred books have been added, the library now, (1900), numbering nearly 1,300 volumes.\*

The town of Orange has been very generous to its branch library, providing all the furniture, giving time and thought to the careful selection of books, and we have, as the result, what is pronounced by every one a fine, well-chosen library. The people take much pride in it, as is evidenced by the care taken of the books, and when we are asked if the library is well patronized, if the interest in it continues, if the people read much and various other questions, we reply, "Our regret is that Mrs. Goddard did not provide for a library during her lifetime, that she might have had the satisfaction of seeing how her gift was appreciated."

Another gift, not to be forgotten, is that of \$1,000, the interest of which is to be annually expended to maintain in perpetual good condition and repair, to provide flowers, seats and ornaments in the public park known as Goddard Park.

The income of \$1000 was also to be used in caring for the Goddard burial lot at Tully and the income of \$5,000 to aid the deserving poor of the town, making in all the sum of \$10,000 given to the town of Orange.

Surely we have reason at this time to remember gratefully and lovingly the name of Asula P. Goddard.

The people of North Orange hope that sometime a way may be provided to furnish a library building, as at no far-distant day it will have outgrown its present quarters.

*Mrs. Sara E. Rich. August 16, 1900.*

\* January 1, 1924 the number of volumes had increased to 3,169.



THE PERRY HOUSE

## The Perry House

Noteworthy among the old-time houses are four taverns, three of which are still standing. Of the fourth which was burned about 1880, Mr. A. E. Brooks has given a faithful picture. One of these taverns, the Perry house, so-called, is the center of much historical interest. Not only was it a notable tavern for many years, kept successively by Nathan Goddard, Tyler Perry and David Perry, but in it were held parish meetings and town meetings to which people came from South Orange to vote. Since 1895 the North Orange Library has been located there.

The site of the Perry House is part of a tract of 200 acres of land which the state Archives inform us, was in 1742 granted to Thomas Hapgood of Marlborough "in consideration of his services and sufferings in war against the Eastern Indians." The land was purchased later by Nathan Goddard, grandson of Thomas Hapgood, who, according to Royalston history built a public house, tannery and saw-mill and carried on an extensive business. "Nathan Goddard, long prominent in town affairs, was living here in 1760", writes Mr. H. S. Ballou. This 200-acre tract of land was originally in Royalston, but was set off to Orange when Orange district was formed. After the death of Nathan Goddard in 1806, the farm was bought by Tyler Perry of Sherborn. Tyler Perry, innholder, was followed by his son David Perry, last of the landlords of the Perry Inn. Succeeding the Perrys as owners of the farm, have been Eli Forrester, Nathaniel Forrester and Clarence Rich.

Only one descendant of Tyler Perry, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moses Morton, now remains in North Orange. Some records of the life of her great-grandfather, are given here by a granddaughter, of Tyler Perry, Mrs. D. P. Hudson of Peabody.

## Tyler Perry—Revolutionary Soldier

An unusual event of local historical interest that took place in North Orange on May 30th, 1918, seems worthy of mention.

On that day, the Memorial Day for the soldiers of the Civil war and other wars of our country, an old grave of more than eighty years was decorated for the first time, by the Veterans of the Grand Army. It was the grave of Tyler Perry, a Revolutionary soldier, who died in 1836 and was buried in the old burying ground at North Orange.

Tyler Perry's first ancestor in this country, John Perry, was born in England and came over in the ship *Lion*, arriving in Boston in November, 1631. The noted John Eliot, Apostle to the Indians, came over in the same ship and was ordained, the next year, as a preacher to a church in Roxbury. John Perry's name is the 17th on the list of members of that early church which is now the First Unitarian Church of Roxbury and these records are still preserved. John Perry died about ten years after settling in Roxbury, leaving a wife and children.

John Perry (2) son of John Perry (1) moved to Sherborn, Massachusetts, and was the first of five generations of the Perrys who were born, lived and died there.

Tyler Perry was of the 5th generation and was born in Sherborn, in 1760. At the beginning of the Revolutionary war, this boy of fifteen years enlisted in the militia of his native town. In July 1780, the young soldier was ordered to march with his regiment to Rhode Island where a British expedition was expected to land, to attack the French forces just arrived there.

By advice of Lafayette, the Count de Rochambeau had been sent overseas from France to Newport, R. I., with a squadron of ships of war and six thousand French soldiers to aid the army of Washington. The companies of militia





TYLER PERRY PLACE

from Massachusetts and Connecticut towns were ordered to assist the French troops at Newport in the threatened attack of the British.

Sir Henry Clinton embarked 8000 men at New York for the expedition to Newport. But the ships proceeded no farther than Huntington Bay in Long Island Sound where they stayed a few days and returned to New York.

The enlargement of the forces at Newport by the militia of Massachusetts and Connecticut towns probably alarmed the British and sent them back to New York without making the threatened attack.

At this time Tyler Perry was a private in the 9th Co. of Militia of Sherborn, in Col. Samuel Bullard's regiment. His commander was Capt. Amos Perry and Abner Perry was colonel of his regiment.

As the enemy did not appear at Newport, the companies were all disbanded in fourteen days. The march home of sixty miles to Sherborn, occupied three days of travel. This brief active service entitled Tyler Perry to the honors due a Revolutionary soldier.

In the Revolutionary Records and History of Sherborn, the Perry names are numerous, both as privates and officers. Some of the descendants moved to other towns in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. They were of Puritan and Quaker stock and good citizens wherever they settled.

1785, August 27th, Tyler Perry married Sarah Adams of Braintree, now Quincy. She was of the family of John Adams and John Quincy Adams, presidents of the United States.

Tyler Perry left Sherborn and with his wife and five children came to Orange in or about 1804. On coming to Orange he bought 200 acres or more of land and the house where he lived and where he kept a tavern many years, until after the death of his wife in 1818.

There were no railroads near and much travel from Vermont to Boston by stage coach and private carriages. Drove of cattle were constantly passing through the town on their way to Boston or Brighton. Taverns were a necessity for the travelers.

According to the records of the old church, Parish meetings were often held in the "Perry Inn" as it was then called. Tyler Perry and his eldest son, David, were both officers on the church committee and their names are frequently found in the clerk's books as assessor or treasurer of the Parish committee. In 1831 a Parish meeting was held at David Perry's house, when he was appointed with seven others to consider moving and turning the church one quarter round.

About 1830 or later Mr. Perry sold his house and land to his son David who kept the tavern a few years. Tyler Perry married again and moved to a small farm on the old road to Athol, where he died in 1836, aged 76 years.

His eldest daughter, Sally, married Ephraim Fay of Royalston, who died a few years later in the South where he had gone on business. His widow, Sally (Perry) Fay died not long after, leaving their only child, Mary Ann Fay, to grow up in the family of her Grandfather Perry until her early marriage to Moses Morton of Orange. Mr. and Mrs. Morton are well remembered in this community.

One daughter, Nancy, married Josiah Wheelock of Orange, whose grave is in the old burying ground. Some years after his death she married his younger brother, Clark Wheelock. They lived and died in New York.

Another daughter, Clarissa Perry, married David Goddard of an old, well-known family of Orange, and lived in Warwick where she died in 1839.

The eldest son, David Perry, died in North Orange in 1852.

The younger son, William Perry, died in Springfield in 1885.

Through the patriotic loyalty of his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Fannie Morton Daniels, the grave of Tyler Perry—Revolutionary Soldier—has been rescued from oblivion in the old burying ground in North Orange and will be honored hereafter on Memorial Day by the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic.

*Mrs. Divine Perry Hudson. August 8, 1918.*

## The Green House Tavern and North Orange Postal System

A shady highway stretching southward. Can't you see it through the magic glasses of your imagination? A pleasant level stretch of road with the district school-house close by its eastern edge. Nearby the scholars are enjoying a recess. Suddenly one spies a cloud of dust far down the road and above the merry shouts of happy children rings the cry, "Stage is coming." Sports are dropped and all fall in line facing the road to see the stage go by. As it passes, the boys doff their caps and salute the driver with a bow while the girls courtesy. Ah! there's a kind-hearted passenger aboard to-day, for in response to the salute, some oranges are thrown out. Now manners are doffed as easily as caps and little and big scramble for the golden fruit.

Meanwhile the stage rumbles around a curve in the road and up to a tavern across the road from the village common called at present Goddard Park; the tavern called by past generations Wood's Inn; later, the "Green House" because painted green for many years, is now the Post Office block.

The word-picture just sketched calls back associations of that era when turnpikes and country roads were replacing the narrow rough roads over which the early settlers patiently plodded on foot or on horseback, or, a little later, jolted over in two-wheeled carts. An era that brought great days for stage-coaches, and the taverns along their routes, long vanished days of which even "their reminiscences are passing away with the generations to which they belonged." Gone, too, are the lumbering thorough-braced stage-coaches, but some of the old taverns remain. North Orange retains three such taverns serving now not as hostleries, but as private dwellings. Each has features of interest, but to-day time allows especial attention to but one of them,—the "Green House."

The fame of this tavern may not have been wide-spread, but it possessed the same distinguishing feature that the Yankee boastfully claimed for his



GREEN HOUSE TAVERN—LATER CALLED CENTRAL HOUSE

native town and that was the fact that one could start from there to go to any place in creation.

Moreover if the "Green House" had a voice to tell us of the now buried generations and interesting events of its time, we should have a more complete history of this town than any person now living can furnish.

For how many years the "Green House" has stood, no one knows. Dr. J. Q. Adams says it was probably built by Benjamin Mayo. In that case its birthday must date previous to 1797.

Having as its distinguishing feature a long ell extending easterly, the square, two-story house with four-sided roof, flat on top, had broad chimneys and large fire places that promised its guests protection from the cold; the usual accessories of a fire place,—crane, pot-hooks, pots and tin kitchen and the great brick ovens exhaling "wonderful savor of pies and pastry" promised substantial food supplies; and at short notice the bar-room fulfilled its promise of ministering to longing appetites the toddy which our forefathers thought so indispensable.

An important line of travel passed over the road by this tavern for the road was the thoroughfare between Boston and Brattleboro, Vt. Stage coaches between the two places enlivened the road and drivers and passengers stopped at the "Green House" for rest and refreshment. Here also marketers and teamsters halted on their way down to Boston with loads of produce; likewise on their return, their ox-wagons laden with rum, molasses, codfish, tea, salt and spices for the country traders. Drove of cattle were frequently driven down from farther north and here the driver came for the night after turning his cattle into Oliver Ward's adjoining field (now Mr. Estabrooks') and securely fastening the huge gate opening into the road. Here tarried the transient traveller and the occasional peddler. So great fires roared in the chimneys and the fumes of tobacco and toddy mingled in the bar-room as stock stories were exchanged.

Of imaginary tenants of the "Green House" there is one report, a report, that gave rise to the rumor that the house was haunted. Investigation by a few townsmen proved that the strange noises heard in the vacant house, were not made by ghostly tenants, but by a loose board on the back of the house.

Of the many owners and occupants of the Green House only a partial list follows. Calvin Mayo, Justin Lord and Gardner Wood were among those who conducted the tavern from its opening until it ceased to be a tavern in 1849 when Mr. Wood sold the property to Philbrook Worrick and Moses Morton. The Gardner Wood farm comprised at that time 21 acres extending from the Warwick road southward to land now owned by Mrs. Adin Taylor. On the eastern side was Benjamin Wood's house lot now the southeast corner of L. P. Cheney's mowing, thence the Athol road to Solon Oliver's pasture; thence the present boundary line to the Warwick road which formed the northern boundary. The western boundary was the same as at present. Two years later, Mr. Morton sold his part to Mr. Worrick who never lived there during his 21 years of sole ownership, but let the house to various tenants among whom were Caleb Mayo and Lafayette Worrick.

History tells us that for the greater part of the years thus briefly recalled, most of the inhabitants of New England country towns had only "brains and courage for their stock in trade." Hence it follows that industry and economy must have been their slogan. Nevertheless a good time never came amiss as is shown by their huskings, their sleigh-rides, their dances, their parties and their Fourth of July celebrations. The tavern extended its hospitality of the townspeople and increased their opportunities for friendly intercourse, but reminiscence likes best to linger over the good times in the hall on the second floor of the tavern's long ell. What memories the hall must have held of that good old institution, the village lyceum,—its debates and lectures. One of the earliest subjects for debate was "Are Early Marriages Judicious?" But generally attention was given to public matters when good talkers and keen intellects made the debates instructive as well as interesting. Usually the speakers and oftentimes the lecturers were residents of the town. One of the lectures—an Experimental Lecture on Electricity—links those old days with our modern electrical age.

What memories of joy and laughter at dancing schools and dancing parties in that same hall where Cupid often danced attendance, at the same time aiming his arrows with marvellous accuracy. Rich memories of singing schools that flourished under the teaching of Mr. Morris, Mr. Merrill, Mr. George Field and Mr. A. J. Fisher. There must have been in the town an especial fondness for singing for after a singing school closed for the season, singing meetings were held in meeting-house, school-house or private house. But it was at singing school where voices joined with tones of the fiddle that fun and singing went hand in hand. Bantering made a large part of the fun and opportunities for jesting were always improved. So when Sylvia Briggs was given the privilege of choosing the piece to be sung she quickly responded to the knock of opportunity. Knowing the attraction between a young man attending the school and Miss Lamb, the daughter of Israel Lamb, Miss Briggs chose the following selection.

See Israel's gentle shepherd stand  
With all-engaging charms;  
Hark how he calls the tender lambs  
And folds them in his arms.

Happy are memories of Select Schools held in the hall for several terms. These schools were well attended by pupils coming across the meadows, down from the hills, up from the plains, from the remotest district as well as from the



center of the town. Among those who guided the feet of these pupils along the road to knowledge were Percival Blodgett, Joseph Wright, W. D. Herrick, afterwards pastor of the Baptist Church at North Amherst, Emily Goddard, sister of Dr. Goddard of Orange, and Dr. James Oliver of Athol. In speaking of his teaching in different schools Dr. Oliver said, "I think my North Orange experience was the pleasantest part of my life. Many of the scholars were very near my own age and not an ugly or unpleasant one among the number. Each scholar was put upon his or her own honor and there was in reality no such thing as discipline, still there was perfect order;" a tribute to North Orange youth that is well worth recording. Pleasant memories of levees and church suppers of which Mrs. Nathan Johnson was the leading spirit obtain.

And what of the Free Masons' lodge-room, the small room opening out of the hall at the east end? Caravans might come to Athol and attract for a day, but didn't every child in the village know that in the small room east of the hall, the Masons kept their goat all the time and thrilling was the anticipation of what would happen "just supposin" that goat got out. In connection with the Masonic meetings held there it is of interest to note that a Masonic lodge was the first secret organization that flourished in Orange. Petitioners for the charter of Orange Lodge, instituted June 8, 1825, included the first officers,—David Young, Jr., Worshipful Master; Ebenezer Goddard, Senior Warden; Nathan Nickerson, Jr., Junior Warden; Dr. Perley Barton, Secretary; James Young, Treasurer; Sherebiah Baker, S. D.; Amos Cheney, J. D.; Jonathan Hogg, S. S.; Thomas Barry, J. S.—with Nathan Cheney, Adin Holbrook, Henry K. Johnson and Eliphalet Thorpe. From these names we see that residents of Athol joined those of Orange in the petition. On account of the anti-Masonic excitement the Lodge suspended in 1831, but was re-instituted in 1859 with Benjamin Sawin the new Master.

Beneath the hall there was on the first floor a store, the usual adjunct of a tavern. This store sometimes called the lower store to distinguish it from the "upper store located where L. P. Cheney's house now stands, was conducted by various traders among whom were Lyman Harrington, Josiah Wheelock and Hillel Baker,—the firm name Baker and Wheelock. Here the thrifty home maker brought her butter, receiving for it 16 cents a pound or perhaps exchanging it for calico or some other goods, for trade at that time was largely a question of barter, so much so that merchants were usually called traders—most traders were willing to receive in payment either cash or potash, live geese feathers, wheat, rye or corn.

Barter and romance are far-separated but it was through barter that one North Orange maiden found the romance of her life. No opportunity afforded her a meeting with the newly-arrived, unassuming young storekeeper about whom she heard the neighbors talk. As days passed her desire to see him increased, but she had no cash, therefore no excuse to go to the store. Suddenly the cackling of a hen gave her an inspiration; she would use an egg as a medium of trade and forthwith hastened to the store to exchange the newly-laid egg for peppermints. The egg procured not only the peppermints, but also the maiden's future happiness for the acquaintance thus begun led to marriage and many years of true devotion to one another.

There lingers in town the memory of a man who invariably arrived at the store just as it was closing for the night. After buying many groceries, he once said, "Gardner there is something else my wife told me to be sure and get, but I can't seem to think what it is." After much thinking he said, "Maybe it was saleratus; put me up several pounds as it always comes in handy in a family where there are eleven children."

One other customer comes to mind,—the dame who always had a glass of toddy after making her purchases. The goods she bought were charged, but not wishing the word toddy to appear on the bill presented to her husband, she asked the proprietor not to charge that. "What shall I do," said the storekeeper, "I can't remember how many glasses you drink." "Oh, write Chorus!" said the dame. When the bill was sent in the puzzled husband exclaimed, "Chorus! Chorus! What does this mean? We have had no music." What followed I leave to your imagination.

At that time liquor drinking was a matter of ordinary usage in all the country round. Was haying to be done, a bridge to be built or a meeting house to be raised there must be an abundance of rum; at weddings and at funerals liquor was thought necessary; not to offer distilled spirits to the minister when he called, would be the height of inhospitality; when sick, people drank to get well, and when well, they drank to prevent sickness. The time was a part of the half century following the Revolution when hardly any other manufacturing industry of the country reached the magnitude of the manufacture and sale of New England rum. Much of the beverage was sold at grocery stores, most storekeepers being licensed retailers of ardent spirits. Old ledgers contain many charges of new rum and gin, thus proving that not all the jugs and tin pails filled at the store were vinegar jugs and milk pails.

In justice to the storekeepers let it be remembered that such traffic was then considered honorable, also that the courts would not entertain an application for a license unless the good character and standing of the applicant were first certified by the selectmen of the town.

Among those coming to the store were women who came for the varicolored straw braid from which they braided hats. The storekeeper bought the braid and let it out, paying for the hats braided therefrom in a variety of wares. From the store the hats were taken away to be blocked. Still well remembered is a Mr. Rogers who used to come from Barre to Orange and buy the hats which he blocked. For several years there was a large barter in palm leaf hats, the output of Orange in 1837 being 72,300 hats, the value of which was \$12,050.

And where could one get more news or later news than at the store, that resource for long winter evenings, that refuge from storm and cold where men talked idly of "what others said and others did, how others died and others lived," or perhaps participated in spirited discussions rivaling those of the lyceum, the topics ranging from the temperature to the policy of the Government.

The store was followed by a dress-making establishment where from 1845 to 1853, Miss Emeline Ward found favor as a dress-maker and won the hearts of small girls while cutting gay pieces of patchwork for them and teaching them to sew.

In 1872 Mr. Worrick sold to C. O. Rich. Then followed repairs and alterations. Mr. Rich gave up his shoe shop in the ell where boots and shoes brought from Athol were bottomed, and the ell was converted into a two-apartment dwelling. In the main building a chimney was taken down and the brick ovens removed. A large unfinished room in the basement was converted into a milk room after taking out the spacious fire-place equally available for boiling cider or for cooking and where less than fifty years ago the spit was carefully turned that the turkey in the tin kitchen before the fire might be perfectly roasted for the Thanksgiving dinner; the bar-room from which the bar had been removed before Mr. Rich bought it, became a sitting room and June 17, 1891, Mr. Rich opened his dwelling as a public house under the name "Central House." After the death of Mr. Rich in 1892 the property was bought by Mr. Alfred Rice who started the store which has since been kept there continuously by various pro-

prietors. In 1898 Mr. Rice sold to Mr. Leslie H. Woodbury who 10 years later sold to Mr. Hibbard Gilmore, the present owner of the property.

The Green House closed its career as a public house 30 years ago, yet almost daily through this period, old and young alike have gathered there. Do you ask why, you will find the answer in the sign above the entrance to the store. The two words, Post Office, signify that here "the door of the United States postal service stands open to the public," here Government provides space for the use and convenience of the people and makes possible communication between people of the same community or widely separated countries.

Why is it called the "Post Office?" Because the earliest known means of sending messages was by couriers who were either fast runners or riders mounted on horses, camels or young dromedaries. To secure greater speed the couriers were relayed at intervals. The Romans marked by a "post" the place in the road where the relay was effected, hence our name, Post Office.

In the earliest days of our own country there was no regular means of communication between the colonies. The occasional letter was sent by some friend or traveller, official dispatches being sent by a special messenger. By the end of the 18th century the need of communication had so increased that mail was sent from a general post office in Boston once a week by riders on horseback. Just as one of these postriders left a house that once stood not far distant, Mr. Zina Goodell entered. Finding the woman of the house in tears, Mr. Goodell inquired the cause of her weeping. "Oh!" wailed the woman, "I have a great deal of trouble, I have trouble, I make trouble, I borrow trouble, and now I have to buy trouble." Explanation showed that she had just paid the post-rider 25 cents for delivering a letter bearing the unwelcome news that her sister who went away for a visit had suddenly married and would not return. The unexpected desertion of her sister with the prospect of a life alone was the cause of her grief.

By an Act of Congress in 1802 stage coaches superseded mounted carriers. The mail was carried in a sack buttoned under the boot of the stage coach. That it was not secure from damage is shown by a circular issued by a Postmaster General to the stage coach line "urging that a hole be bored in the bottom of the boot that rain water might be carried away and not be permitted to damage the mail." These stage coaches carried passengers as well as mail, the ordinary fare being reckoned about 5 cents a mile. On the few fast lines the drivers were allowed to take only six inside passengers and an extra charge was made for the privilege of riding in these gay red coaches. The contract on one fast line required 7 miles an hour, mud-time or snow-time, \$100 to be forfeited if there were failure in complying. There were relays of horses every 10 miles. Both ordinary and fast-line coaches were well patronized by the public and many a country town lost business when stage-coaches were discontinued because railroads had come.

The transition period during which conveyance of mail by stage-coach gave way to conveyance by railway, began in 1834, when mail was first forwarded by railway. This period covered several years for railway transportation proved at first so much less reliable than transportation by stage-coach that the latter continued to carry the mail for some years after Congress had declared all steam railroads post routes.

Previous to transportation of mail by railway Orange signalized its growth by the establishment here May 2, 1816, of its first post office, Lyman Harrington the first postmaster. Succeeding Mr. Harrington as postmasters have been David T. Bruce, George Wheelock, Josiah Wheelock, Perley Barton, Davis Goddard, Hillel Baker, Nathan L. Johnson, Philbrook Worrick, Nathan L. Johnson again, Fred Worrick, Osgood Rich, Miss Maria Blodgett, Alfred Rice,



THE BAKER HOME AND FIRST POST OFFICE BUILDING AT RIGHT

Leslie Woodbury, Hibbard Gilmore, and Mrs. Steadman Coe, the present incumbent.

In its pilgrimage through the years the post office has changed its abode many times. Kept at first in the ell of the Green House, it was removed when Hillel Baker was postmaster, to the small building erected by him just east of the Green House. We next find the post office in N. L. Johnson's store until a change in administration brought a new postmaster, Philbrook Worrick; then the post office journeyed to the upper store owned at that time by Mr. Worrick. Another political change brought a second term of service to N. L. Johnson and a trip of the post office to his own store where it remained until Mr. Johnson's death in 1885. The next two postmasters kept the post office in the Hillel Baker building. Then once more and for the last time it went down the hill to Solon Oliver's store, formerly N. L. Johnson's, where Miss Maria Blodgett served as post-mistress. Since 1896 the post office has been in its present location in the Green House.

Service was by stage-coach. After the discontinuance of the Brattleboro stage, the contract for transporting mail between Athol and Warwick was given to different individuals at various times. Among the mail team drivers of this period were Warner Bent, Caleb Cook, Melanethon Clark and Wallace Ball who like all drivers had many interesting experiences. Mr. Clark used to tell of once overtaking a woman who was walking between North Orange and Warwick. Seeing that she was barefooted although there was snow on the ground, Mr. Clark stopped his team and, questioning the woman, found that she had walked from her home in Winchester to North Orange with hats she had braided and was now returning. As you may surmise, Mr. Clark took her on board the stage and drove her to Winchester.



Until about 60 years ago this mail team brought North Orange its mail three times a week,—Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Since then, North Orange mail has been conveyed between Athol and North Orange by a carrier authorized by Government. At first mail was brought daily, six trips a week being made. July 1, 1901, Government sanctioned two trips daily through four months of the year,—June through September.

Still living here is the veteran carrier of this period, Mr. Adriel White, who in 1862 willingly and loyally served as a defender of the National Government and who in later years, 1905-1918, served with equal fidelity as carrier of the United States mail between Athol and North Orange. With respect and affection we record the name of Mr. White who drove through sunshine and storm, through summer heat and winter cold for 13 years, covering in his trips 50,000 miles.

November 21, 1823, seven and one-half years after the establishment of a post office here,—a post office was established in South Orange, Thomas Cobb postmaster. July 17, 1845, the titles of the two post offices were changed; Orange became North Orange and South Orange became Orange.

For many years Tully received its mail through the North Orange post office, Tully residents paying the one sent for the mail one cent for every letter delivered and one-half a cent for a paper. In 1890 a post office was established in Tully, Frank Knowland, postmaster.

Along the old turnpike through North Orange echoes are no longer awakened by the stage-coach's post-horn; the horn of the automobile has taken its place. But there are sections of the United States where stages, and not only stages, but riders on horseback carry the mail even now, for Government still employs every method of mail transportation used in early days besides all the methods of conveyance developed in modern times. These various methods are necessary because there are still out-of-the-way sections of our country and because all railroads, all the waters of the United States, all canals, all public roads and highways, and all mail carrier routes are recognized as established post routes of the United States. And whenever along any one of these routes we find a post office, whether it be in a box car or a blacksmith's shop, in the smaller 4th class office or in the most magnificent Government structure, we feel that the mission of the post office is aptly expressed by the inscription upon the United States Post Office at Washington, D. C.:

Messenger of sympathy and love,  
 Servant of parted friends,  
 Consoler of the lonely,  
 Bond of the scattered family,  
 Enlarger of the common life,  
 Carrier of news and knowledge,  
 Instrument of trade and industry,  
 Promoter of mutual acquaintance  
 Of peace and good will  
 Among men and nations.

*Written, August 10, 1922.*

## The Mayo Tavern

This house was built by Nathan Goddard in 1773, before the Declaration of Independence was signed, for his daughter Dolly, who married Benjamin Mayo, she being but 16 years of age. Her husband lived only 15 years after their marriage, but "Aunt Dolly," as she was called, lived in the same house until her death at a very advanced age.



THE MAYO TAVERN AS IT LOOKED—NOW THE WHITE HOMESTEAD

The house was used as a tavern a greater part of the time that it was occupied by the Mayos, and was noted for its hospitality. Aunt Dolly was noted for her parties and good cooking. The story is told that at one time a party of soldiers passed through the place and stopped at the house for food. Aunt Dolly had a sheep killed, dressed and cooked for them in short order—they then went on their way.

It was in this house in January, 1781, that the first meeting of the Pioneers was held to make plans for the building of a meeting house, which was built a few months later, and is still standing to-day with a few additions. It was also in this house that the first meeting was for a committee to make plans for forming the town of Orange, this was in August of the same year.

It seems hardly possible that all this took place during the Revolutionary war, and at these meetings the events of the great war with England were talked over and discussed in the same house that exists to-day in a good state of preservation. At the death of Dolly Mayo the house became the property of her daughter who had married a man by the name of Frost. During the time the Frosts lived on the place many changes were made. The ell was built, a new barn was erected and many other improvements made. They lived there until the death of Mrs. Frost. The place was then sold at auction to Benjamin Mayo, who lived on what is now known as the Mayo place, about a mile west of here. He sold to a man by the name of Bamfield who lived there but a short time, he selling to the late Philbrook Worrick, whom you all remember, in 1861. The Worricks lived there 45 years and made many improvements. The old chimney was removed by him and two small ones put in its place. While Mr. Worrick lived there the house was occupied by two families some of the time.

The place was sold to the Rev. Charles Conklin, who occupied it about four years, part of the time as a summer home. He sold to the present owners, who have lived there 11 years.

The house has been changed more or less by each new owner until the first builders would hardly recognize it, but the same timbers remain that were first used and are perfectly sound. The old house has served as a home for many people for nearly 150 years, and I have no doubt it will continue its good work for another century and a half.

*Rollin White, August 9, 1906.*



MRS. JOANNA GOODELL AND "OLD SMITH TAVERN" ON BOSTON TO BRATTLEBORO STAGE ROAD, WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY THE TORNADO, SEPT. 14, 1821. LATER REBUILT AND FOR MANY YEARS KNOWN AS THE OTIS BROOKS FARM

## The Old Smith Tavern

The Old Smith Tavern was for many years an old and interesting landmark of the town and if we had all the sayings and doings that occurred in and around that place it would fill volumes of a varied character, much that would be interesting and entertaining, some that would be ludicrous and droll and very likely some profane, all this because of the kind of people who frequent hotels. As near as I can learn from information at hand the house was built about 1805. Whether it was built by Capt. Moses Smith purposely for a tavern I am unable to say, but that is the supposition.

Capt. Smith was born in Warwick, May 15th, 1781 and his wife, Joanna Goodell Smith was born in Orange, November 12, 1787, date of marriage is unknown but probably about the time the house was built, 1805. Five children were born to them: Orena, the oldest, wife of Levi Mayo and mother of Mrs. Louisa Herriek, now in Orange; Sylvia, wife of Colonel Benjamin Putnam (who assumed the ownership and control of the tavern soon after the death of Capt. Smith in 1842); Chandler Smith, a merchant in New York city ever after leaving the farm; Celista, who was a babe in her mother's arms at the time of the tornado and Moses Warren Smith, a machinist who spent the last years of his life in our own city, Grand Rapids, Mich.

This tavern, together with a blacksmith shop across the road and nearly opposite the house, were built at the top of a very steep hill as all will remember who are familiar with the place and surroundings, and on the main thoroughfare from Boston to Brattleboro. Necessarily there must have been much heavy trucking and all done with horses as at that time this was the only means of conveyance. It is said that Capt. Smith kept a pair of horses harnessed all the time to help teams up this steep pitch, probably the steepest hill between the two places above mentioned. Undoubtedly this was a very important place in those days, on account of the variety of service rendered, combining as it did hotel accommodations, blacksmithing and necessary assistance up the hill.

I learn nothing further specially important until 1821, when the place was partially destroyed by a tornado.

The old Smith Tavern was my home for many years from 1859 to 1873 and naturally I became very attached to it.

There were some things about the house that to me were especially interesting. The hall, used for parties and dancing, running the whole length of the house with a fire place at each end and built in box seats and steps the whole length on one side with hinge top for storage when occasion required. Then too, the hall and guest room were decorated with hand painted evergreen trees on the wall, which to say the least, were uncommon and very pleasing.

On the lower floor between the bar room, bed room and kitchen was a dark closet, with shelves and numerous cupboards for the storage of bottles, jugs, etc., probably used for concealing the different kinds of strong drink much used in those days.

But the old tavern is no more, only in memory, having burned to the ground I think about 1880, but fortunately I thought enough of the place so that upon my second visit here, I secured the services of a photographer and invited a few relatives to join us and we had photographs taken which were used in decorating the invitation to the gathering this year. So after all I am pleased to have the opportunity to tell of these things, even though you might have been better entertained by others.

*A. E. Brooks, August 14, 1919.*

Of other early houses, some have disappeared, some have been altered and some have been replaced by new ones. L. P. Cheney's large house, built in 1873 by F. E. Goddard, replaces the building which combined dwelling and store, —the store kept by George Wheelock, Matthew Cheney, Davis Goddard, Philbrook Worriek and others.

Across the street, the North Orange Hotel built by Mrs. F. E. Goddard in 1888, replaces the home of Oliver Ward. The landlords of this hotel include John Metcalf, F. F. McLean who on Memorial Day, 1895, opened the hotel under the new name of Overview House; A. L. Stone, Mrs. Bedurtha, Mr. Elligott and Mr. Gregory who took possession in May, 1907 and who after living there 12 years, sold the house as a private residence to Mr. Estabrooks, the present occupant.

## The Common

And here beside the turnpike is another reminder of older things,—the Common, where echoes of early training-days and joyous Fourth of July celebrations vibrate as we turn the leaves of Memory. For the Common does not come to North Orange as a recent gift. It was the home of the old schoolhouse from which poured forth so many youngsters to play upon the green, the home of the village hayseals, the home of the much-prized old cannon. On the Common





JUST BEYOND LIES CREAMERY HILL

were held those Fourth of July celebrations that contributed so much to the life of the town, that were so potent to stir the hearts of young and old, as gathered in the meeting-house at 10 o'clock in the morning, they listened to singing, a discourse by some speaker and the reading of the Declaration of Independence,\* after which the audience marched in the following order,—music, children, adults, —to a bower on the Common where there were tables filled with various refreshments. "Throughout the first hour after partaking of the refreshments, it was chat, chat, chat," says a participant. Then came toasts, after each of which the old cannon boomed to be followed in its turn by music. Thus the hours passed until the afternoon waned and the people dispersed.

Miss French has given us a sketch of the old cannon, but a few more facts in connection with its eventful life, are added here. From the several accounts of its coming to North Orange we have chosen the following given at the 100th anniversary of the town of Orange. "The cannon, a 10-pounder, was cast at Brest and brought from Springfield by Stephen and Caleb Mayo and Percy Barton, they giving their receipt for it to the United States. There was no carriage with it and when moved, a yoke of oxen with cartwheels served as gun carriage with George Goddard as captain." The date 1778 was inscribed on it. Its calibre was 3 1-2 inches; the walls near the breech were 3 inches thick; near the muzzle 2 1-2 inches thick.

From its home on the Common, the cannon made many trips as Petersham, Athol, South Orange and other places borrowed it to increase by its booming the importance of their celebrations. For a time when political feeling ran high, it was an exile from home, secreted in Nelson Harrington's barn in a haymow until the diminishing haymow threatened exposure; then placed in a box in Mr. Harrington's woodshed from which place it was taken up to a chamber where it reposed for a while. Subsequently it again took part in public affairs and

\* In 1847 Rev. Levi Ballou delivered the discourse and Mr. Hillel Baker read the Declaration of Independence.

shared in the centennial celebration of 1876 at South Orange where it remained until ten years later when it spoke for the last time on the shore of Tully pond. For this effort the cannon had been loaded with more zeal than discretion. As the burning fuse reached the powder charge, there was "a mighty roar, a cloud of dust, splashes in Tully pond" and the old cannon was no more. The loss of the cherished cannon was mourned by many.

About 1876 when Franklin E. Goddard bore the expense of grading, curbing and fencing the Common, also the planting of shade trees thereon, the Common received its new name "Goddard Park." The work was done under the direction of A. Nelson Harrington and the stones used came from the Harrington farm.

The well dug in 1902 was covered for a while, but in 1911 a neat well-house was built over it by Mr. Adriel White. The well was pumped out and since then the well's unfailing supply of pure fresh water has been a boon to many, especially in times of drought.

In 1904 another cannon was placed upon the Park. The Orange Enterprise and Journal gives the following record of articles placed beneath the cannon:

### Records That Will Be Preserved

There are not many who know that under the the big Rodman gun at Goddard park in North Orange there is a collection of relics which in generations to come, should the gun be moved, will provide much interest and wonder to the finders. There are still fewer who are aware of the fact that the various articles were placed there by William W. Weeden of this town seven years ago. Mr. Weeden placed in the foundations a concrete pocket where he put the articles and over this he put a lead cap so that no moisture would get to the papers and thus spoil them. In this pocket he deposited a few emblems, souvenirs consisting of a New York Herald containing full report of the assassination of Abraham



WHERE A LUNCHEON TASTES BETTER THAN A SEVEN COURSE DINNER

Lincoln; list of officers of the North Orange Universalist Sunday school and church; copy of Athol Transcript containing account of the first North Orange reunion; the petition for placing the cannon at Goddard park, with the names of the petitioners; Enterprise and Journal containing account of moving the gun from the railroad station to the park; list of officers of the Congregational church and Sunday school; list of officers of Fall Hill Encampment, I. O. O. F., of Orange; copper plate, engraved with names of selectmen of Orange for 1904; a \$50 Confederate states bill; a three cent U. S. script; one of the first badges worn by the North Orange grange; copy of constitution and by-laws of lodge, No. 182, I. O. O. F. of Orange; by-laws Orange Commandery, Knights Templars; Masonic directory of Orange for 1904; directory Ancient order of United Workmen, Orange; directory of Pequog tribe of Red Men, Athol; G. A. R. roster, Orange; by-laws Crescent Royal Arch Chapter of Orange; a Connecticut wooden nutmeg; by-laws of Athena Chapter, Eastern Star, Orange; catalog of North Orange branch of Orange town library; sleeve button, design of Boston baked beans, and Orange illustrated publication by Enterprise and Journal. These relics may rest undisturbed under the center of the granite block upon which rests the cannon, perhaps for centuries.

## Burying Grounds

In the beginning two burying grounds were provided,—one about an eighth of a mile west of the Meeting-house, and one in the southern part of the District for the convenience of the settlers there. By the middle of the last century these two old burying grounds had become inadequate for the requirements of North Orange and a third burying ground was provided at Tully.

The Jones burying ground in the southern part of North Orange, is so named for Jonathan Jones, one of the first settlers, who gave for burial purposes land from his farm. Later this burial ground was enlarged by the annexation of land bought by the town from the Allen family. Here, as in the old burying-ground of North Orange, slumber the forefathers of the town until the angel calls.

A few minutes walk west from the North Orange burying-ground, the oldest one of the town, there has been erected beside the highway, a stone to the memory of Mrs. Sophia Wheelock, killed June 20, 1820, by a fall from a carriage.

## Town Industries

A change in name was not followed by immediate change in industries, for with the exception of what was accomplished at gristmill, sawmill and blacksmith shop, the age was still one of home industries when in every house, spinning-wheel, loom and dye-pot, prepared fabrics for household and personal use or materials for clothing,—materials which the village seamstress, going from house to house would convert into coats and pantaloons for the men of the house or dresses and capes for the women. The village was a veritable hive of industry. To the women busy with the usual routine of household duties, Spring brought the annual task of soap-making; Summer, the making of cheese; Fall, helping to take up the bees and divide the honey; Winter the trying of tallow and the making of sausages and applesauce. Strawberrying, blueberrying and blackberrying; gathering herbs for flavoring and medicinal purposes; checkerberry leaves for distilling or sorrel for dying and setting the color, spinning, weaving, knitting, sewing, braiding hats, weaving and binding Shaker bonnets, all had their turn in the year's program.



EVEN THE FACTORY SITES PRESENT A PICTURE

### *Directions For Braiding Palm Leaf Hats.*

Men's Hats.—No. 2 and 3, must be braided from 6 1-2 to 6 3-4 inches across the Top, 5 inch Side, and 4 1-2 inch Brims with two Borders.

Men's Extra.—No. 2, must have 5 inch Brims, with two wide Borders.

Men's No. 4.—Must have from 4 1-2 to 4 3-4 inch Brim, with two wide Borders.

All the above must be braided tight, and firmly bound off, well trimmed, and Brims so widened as to lay flat.

Unless the above directions are complied with, full prices must not be expected.

*Martin & Walker.*

March 22, 1851.

The farms still produced the necessities of life and the skins and hides of the slaughtered animals furnished the leather from which was made the foot-gear of the family. Nearly every farmer cut and sawed his wood, was his own carpenter and made repairs of various kinds. The special duties which the months brought to one farmer living in North Orange in the middle of the last century, probably occupied the attention of most North Orange farmers of that period. The tapping of his sugar trees began sometimes by the last of February and sugar-making continued until the last of March in which month a new sled was also made; in April, ploughing began and rye was sown; May was sheep shearing time; in June, the bees were hived; in July, rye was cradled, oats harvested and grass cut; August brought barley-cutting; September, the harvesting of buckwheat; in October and November, a stone wall was made, one



of the many stone walls, which testify not only to "a million backaches" as one man said, but also to the thrift and industry of the builders.

Manufacturing was subsidiary to farming. Some shoe-making was done; Horace Johnson had a wheelwright shop next to his house; kegs and barrels for pork and salt meat were made in Franklin Ward's cooper shop; brooms for sweeping out brick ovens were made by Stephen Mayo who lived on the west side of the Flagg road, a short distance north of Mr. Charles Newton's present residence. A cellar hole in Mr. Newton's pasture marks the location of the Mayo house, an interesting feature of which was the ell, originally the porch over the entrance to the first meeting-house. Rag carpets were woven in several places,—by a woman living in what is now Mr. Cummings' house, by Aunt Resty Lord in a room in the Perry house, and by the mother of Shubal Briggs who had her loom and made carpets in her son's corn house which stood nearly opposite Davis Conant's present residence. On the 1879 map of Franklin County a carpet house is located beside Moses Johnson's house. Checkerberry leaves gathered by the women were taken to Tully to be distilled into that old-fashioned, highly-valued lotion,—wintergreen oil, but large quantities of the leaves were sent away by a resident of Tully who with a man to help him used to drive up near the old Collier place (north-west side of Tully mountain) and with a large rake, gather many bags full of leaves.

About the only outside business carried on was the dealing in live stock by Humphrey Smith and Eli Forrester.

The facilities for water power were utilized from the first as is shown by the number of mills erected. A few of these have been named. Some 50 years ago Daniel and Asa Harrington had a furniture factory in Blissville. Tables, bureaus and commodes were made there. Milton Bliss also had a factory where he manufactured crutches. The Tully mills which have fast become the leading industry of North Orange are not enumerated in this chapter as Miss French has previously given their history.

A mile south of Tully is Fryeville where the East Branch of Tully river affords privileges that have been improved by others as well as Silas Fry for whom the place was named. Mr. Fry had a pail factory there many years ago. Later the mill was bought and used for many years by Park and Day. This mill was burned between 50 and 60 years ago. A saw mill here was operated by Mellen and Lamb. Perhaps the saw as it dragged down and then went upsounded to them as it did to someone else, as if it said, "Shall I go or shall I not?" If it did, such indecision was not tolerated, for Messrs. Mellen and Lamb changed the up and down saw for a circular saw. Some other manufacturers at Fryeville were Cardney and Miller, makers of bedsteads, stands and other furniture. Rufus Frost who had a shoddy mill and the partners, M. R. Hartshorn, D. Clements and H. P. Paul, who in 1880 began making boxes with locked, or dove-tailed corners. They continued this business about three years.

Among the earliest industries were Nathan Goddard's tannery, a little northwest of the Nathan Johnson house; Asa Lord's brickyard in the Jones district; Abijah Marble's kiln where "old Joe Southwick" made earthen ware which he peddled in neighboring towns during the winter. People also went to the kiln to buy the ware. The clay used in making the ware was drawn from the brick yard situated two miles south and owned in later years by Adin Smith. John Goddard also had a pottery on what is now the Taylor place. The clay used here was drawn from the Lemuel Whitney "clay pit," the south side of the "clay pit" being owned by Adin Smith's father and the north end by Lemuel Whitney (father of Ami Whitney). By courtesy of Mrs. L. A. Whittmore (daughter of Dr. J. Q. Adams) we are enabled to give this account of the early potteries of North Orange. Not far from the Marble place was the eider mill built about

1827. We have read that Charles Goddard once made pottery on the Amos Goddard place. This being true would account for the three potteries which John D. Flagg said he could remember as located on the street and at one of which he bought his first milkpans when he began housekeeping. On the present Overview place Oliver Ward made potash and in 1799, a "hatter's shop" stood on the east side of what is now Rollin White's front lawn.

The latest industry is that of the North Orange Creamery Association which was organized, August 21, 1895. Many pounds of butter were turned out weekly until the spring of 1908 when the industry was discontinued. On August 19 of that year the factory was sold at auction to H. U. Wakefield. Later the building was bought by Mr. Hauseman and converted into a dwelling-house.

## Social Organizations

Orange Lodge of Masons was instituted in 1825\*

The Village Lyceum.\*

The Fire Engine Company has its headquarters at Tully where the engine and engine-house are located. After the purchase of a new engine in 1864, the old engine was placed in a building near the old ice-house. It was burned with the building in which it was housed in the fire of 1865.

Good Templars. Temperance agitation which started in the Washingtonian movement in Baltimore in 1840, was manifested in North Orange in 1842 and 1844 when temperance lectures were given by Mr. Frost and Mr. D. D. Baker to large audiences. Throughout the States, talks upon temperance were influential in the formation of the Independent Order of Good Templars, founded in 1851 in Utica, New York. The Order spread rapidly all over the country. North Orange soon had a Lodge of 50 or more members who conducted meetings much after the manner of the old Lyceum. In its early days the Lodge met in Parish Hall. As the Lodge grew smaller by reason of the departure of a number of members from town, meetings were held in the Chapel for a year or two preceding 1881 when the Good Templars of North Orange gave up their charter to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Sovereigns of Industry. Founded February 19, 1875. During a time of lack of employment following the commercial crisis of 1873, there was formed an association similar in its aims and purpose to the Patrons of Husbandry or as it is commonly called, the Grange. This order, Sovereigns of Industry, promised

\* For further mention, see article on the Green House.



THE OVERVIEW HAS A VIEW OVER ALL



WHERE THE "TULLYS" TOUCH

laboring men material advantages by being able to purchase at wholesale and sell to members of the order at much lower prices than the ordinary retail prices. Each council was composed of persons 16 years of age and over, engaged in industrial pursuits. A council could be enabled to buy directly from wholesale dealers or in a town where there was a council, members could purchase goods of traders with whom arrangements had been made to sell to members of the order at reduced prices. Trading cards, the color of which was changed every quarter, were furnished the members and in order to be allowed a discount, the buyer had to show his card at the time of purchase.

The Furnace Village Council, No. 121, Sovereigns of Industry, North Orange, Massachusetts, was organized February 19, 1875. At first meetings were held in the Tully school-house; later in the Engine House hall, Tully. At these meetings, readings and declamations were given; also debates on different subjects. At one time there were over 60 members representing North Orange villages, West Royalston and other places. By 1880 there were about half as many members and in March of that year the association was given up.

The Grange, established March 3, 1875, did not have a very healthy growth at first and only occasional meetings were held at different houses. Since its reorganization in 1886 or '88 with A. Nelson Harrington as Master, the Grange has held regular meetings in Parish Hall and continued to exert its social, ethical and altruistic force upon the community.

#### *North Orange Reunion Association*

Inspired by the idea of a reunion at North Orange of its residents, former residents and their descendants, Mrs. Elvira B. G. Ballou, Mrs. Fannie Daniels, Rev. Mr. Blackford and Solon J. Oliver talked the matter over and, recognizing the desirability of such a meeting, became so enthusiastic over the idea, that they soon imbued others with like enthusiasm for the undertaking. Committees were appointed with Merrill D. Herrick, President, and Rev. Mr. Blackford, Secretary, and all worked with zealous ardor for the success of their plans.

August 16, 1900, brought fruition of their ideas,—the happy home-gathering of many sons and daughters of North Orange. How many remember that first Reunion Day twenty-four years ago! Its dismal morning with torrents of rain falling, the sudden clearing, the afternoon of glorious sunshine?

The formal exercises of the day were held in Goddard Park after the merry lunch hour there. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Blackford, pastor of the Universalist Church; Merrill D. Herrick, president of the day extended a cordial welcome to the company. The following original poem,—“Old Home Coming” was read by the writer, Mrs. E. B. G. Ballou:—

Dear friends we meet to-day,  
Upon the Village Green;  
To hear and to be heard,  
To see and to be seen.  
To grasp the friendly palm,  
To meet the kindly eye;  
To repeat the old, old story  
Of happy days gone by.  
To be at feast together,  
With merry chat and light;  
Until all shall discover  
A great loss of appetite.  
This is just the place to get it,  
As a pleasant luxury;  
No need have we of banqueting,  
We have that every day.  
We enjoy the platform speeches,  
The melody of song;  
The ever welcome orchestra  
We relish all day long.  
There's not a land upon the earth  
We cherish more than this;  
We know each wanderer hither come,  
Know well whom he will miss.  
The sigh is in the heart as well  
For the long-absent ones;  
All will, I trow, have secret thoughts  
Of those who would but could not come.  
The heavens above are just the same,  
The earth beneath our feet,  
The glorious hills and vales and mounts  
Their perennial scenes repeat.  
So now we bid you welcome back  
To the land your young feet trod.  
May this be a pleasant memory  
As you journey on the road.  
By your presence we imagine  
Our summons did appear  
For this general Home-coming  
To close the nineteenth hundred year.  
A new century soon will greet us  
None ever saw, or again will,  
So we thought to try and celebrate  
By a Home-coming on the Hill.  
August sixteenth was fixed upon  
By the agreement of our people;  
And the place as you comprehend,  
Is beneath our old church steeple.  
This has ever been a rallying point  
And we treasure it still with care  
For the dear old memories of long ago  
When all hither came with praise and prayer,  
From week to week to greet  
Each dear familiar face;  
To hear the parson pray and preach  
And pronounce departing grace.  
What flocks and flocks of people  
This church sheltered in the past!  
And most of its early devotees  
Were faithful to the last.



So welcome, ye gray-haired grandsires  
 And all ye matrons fair,  
 Ye sturdy men of busy life  
 Who hither do repair  
 With faithful wives and children,  
 We greet you, one and all,  
 So glad are we so many are  
 Not passed beyond recall.  
 The same old church stands in our midst  
 The same old bell doth call,  
 The same fair Hill in living green  
 Doth greet you one and all.  
 But change must come with passing years,  
 For all once nurtured here,  
 And many have passed to the far beyond  
 And left their memories dear.  
 We cannot call them back to us,  
 Vain regrets would do them wrong;  
 But little longer shall we tarry here,  
 Then we too, shall pass along.  
 Alas! the most have passed away  
 We oft were wont to greet,  
 And strangers occupying their homes  
 Their history to repeat.  
 Now when this day is over  
 And you depart from us in haste  
 May you feel an admiration  
 For our aesthetic rural taste.  
 So, if in the not distant future,  
 It may not give you pain,  
 Just don your best bib and tucker,  
 Pack grip and come again.

After Mrs. Ballou's reading, Mr. S. J. Oliver read "Soliloquy of the old church bell," an anonymous contribution from a former resident; Rev. Mr. Blackford read letters from former residents; and a number of speakers,—some, descendants of early settlers, others intimately associated with the life of North Orange,—entertained with anecdotes, reminiscences or historical facts. Among these speakers were Hosea S. Ballou who gave a short historical paper, A. Eddy Brooks of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who gave reminiscences of his early school days here in the fifties; and Benjamin Mayo of Turners Falls, who told of the soldier boys of 1861. Music by an orchestra under the leadership of George Oliver and singing by a chorus under the direction of Aral Kendall, added to the pleasure of the afternoon. The day was one to be long remembered in the annals of North Orange and was so heartily enjoyed that many expressed the wish that Old Home Day might be observed every year. Up to the present time that wish has been granted.

Looking back upon these 24 reunions, we trace the inevitable shadow that attends life, but it has not chilled affection nor lessened the warmth of friendly greeting, for memory keeps ever with us the loved and esteemed whom we cannot see, but who wait for us in just the other room of God's house.

In reviewing the programs, we find that, as a rule, they follow closely that of the first Old Home day. Memorable speakers who did not confine themselves to local history for a theme, include Dr. James Oliver, Rev. L. L. Green, Rev. Charles Conklin, D. D., Rev. W. G. Cosgrove, Rev. Clifford Newton, Mrs. George L. Mason and Mr. Albee Smith.

One innovation that made Old Home day of 1914 one of the most successful ever held, was a street parade. This was a distinct feature of the day and was ahead of the expectations of all. It was very creditable in every detail and showed the result of considerable time and thought in preparation. Much of the credit is due the executive committee which looked after it as well as the

marshal, Emory Swan and Rollin White, who are always ready to contribute liberally toward any worthy project on the hill. The many floats and special vehicles were exceptionally well arranged and the parade passed off without a slip. The line of march formed at the home of John D. Holston and marched to the school house below the residence of Miss M. L. Blodgett and returned to its place of starting. The many features were liberally applauded by the large number of people who lined either side along the way. It was appropriate that the procession should be led by the "Spirit of '76," represented by Golan and Harry Miller and Arthur Ames. Following in the automobile of Rollin White, which he, dressed as Uncle Sam, was driving, came the Grand Army, represented by the following veterans dressed in their uniforms: A. C. White, Wellington White and Samuel Daniels. Following in a surrey came North Orange's oldest people, John C. Holston and Mrs. Alameda Dudley. As many are aware both are 92 years old, the former being only four days older. Both live in the same house, Mr. Holston being the father of John D. Holston and Mrs. Dudley, the mother of Mrs. Holston. They are a very capable couple and quite rugged considering their advanced age. In the parade also was Mrs. E. B. G. Ballou, one of North Orange's most estimable women who is 79 years old. She was driven in a basket phaeton and enjoyed her ride fully as much as anybody. Mrs. Ballou was born and has always lived in North Orange and is a very keen and capable woman. In addition to those mentioned there were represented in the parade by floats, or decorated vehicles, the following: North Orange Grange, the women's society of the Universalist church, Willing Workers, Belles of North Orange, two wheeled cart drawn by two little boys representing Hill-Top farm, W. H. Blackmer, market gardener, Mrs. Cora Cummerford, Charles Richardson, Dwight Clement, Japanese girls, old fashioned team, Hervey Dexter, driving his pair of trained bulls, Everett Davis, and a get-up representing the well-known comic picture, "Toot and be darned." In addition, Aubrey Turner, Jesse Worrick and E. A. Stafford drove their automobiles, which were prettily trimmed, while the Boy Scouts in charge of the Scout master, Rev. Paul Weller, the young men's club and the fire department were represented by their members in a body.

The American flag waving above the Park, the camp chairs, the eups from which we drink Old Home day coffee,—all remind us of the donors, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Brooks who have also given sums of money at different times. Neither should we forget the gift (about \$50) of the citizens of North Orange for the erection of a flag pole on the park; nor the patience with which the committee searched woodlands north, south, east and west to find a tree worthy to become the flagstaff from which Old Glory should broadcast its message of freedom, justice and loving kindness. The flag-pole was broken off by the wind in the winter of 1923.

#### *Presidents of Reunion Committee*

1900.	Merrill D. Herrick *	1909.	Miss Maria Blodgett *
1901.	Rev. A. N. Blackford*	1910.	Charles A. Peekham *
1902.	Adriel C. White *	1911.	Miss Ada Worrick
1903.	Henry P. Paul *	1912.	Mrs. Sara E. Rich
1904.	Rollin O. White	1913.	Mrs. Grace Ward French
1905.	Alonzo W. Martin	1914.	Mrs. Grace Ward Lofberg
1906.	Hoyt U. Wakefield	1915.	Miss Blanche Moore
1907.	Nelson Harrington *	1916.	Golan Miller
1908.	Rev. E. B. Barber	1917.	Mrs. Eunice Davis

\* Deceased

1918. Floyd French. Became a soldier in the World War and John Blackmer served as President  
1919. Miss Jessie Newton

\* Deceased

1920. Floyd French  
1921. True Rice  
1922. Miss Mary Blackmer  
1923. Kenneth White  
1924. Kenneth White

It is worthy of notice that three Presidents,—Adriel C. White, Rollin O. White and Kenneth White represent three generations of the same family.

#### *Secretaries of Reunion Committee*

1900 and 1901, Rev. A. N. Blackford \*      1902, 1903, & 1904, Solon J. Oliver  
1905 and 1906, Miss Ada Worrick      1907-1924, Mrs. Fannie M. Daniels

\* Deceased

Since 1907 Mrs. Fannie M. Daniels has been Secretary of the Reunion Committee. With good will that has never failed, Mrs. Daniels has served with faithfulness, efficiency and unbounded zeal. No duty has proved too arduous for her undertaking, no obstacle too great for her to overcome. Before her courage and optimism difficulties fade away and every Reunion becomes a red letter day in the calendar of North Orange.

### Memories of the Morton Home

I was greatly pleased to find upon the invitation this year that old historical landmark, the picture of the old home of the Morton family. It is a splendid picture and to those of us who lived here 50, 60, or 70 years ago and remember not only the home and its inmates, but the Old Shoe shop nestled snugly under the branches of that stately and graceful old Elm, it calls to mind and memory much that interested every father and mother and every child in this part of the town.

Mr. Morton, the shoemaker, was known far and wide as a man of integrity, the soul of honor and people patronized him knowing that he used only the very best material and that the work was faultless in every respect, hence his boots and shoes were in a great demand. Some writer has said, "If a man can write a better book, preach a better sermon, or make a better mouse trap than his neighbor though he builds his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door."

There was certainly a beaten path to the door of that old shoe shop and often, very often was Mr. Morton obliged to work late at night, with only the light of a tallow candle or an oil lamp in order not to disappoint a customer and the children were delighted to go there. Nothing pleases children more than to have a new pair of shoes and they would go early, so as to sit there and watch the work of waxing the thread and putting on the bristle for a needle which looked so easy to do but which in reality required skill and experience to do quickly and well.

Mr. Morton was an ideal man in his family, gentle but firm, quiet, modest, truthful and religious. Sunday always found him in the church, to which he was devoted and to which he gave liberally. His house was also a rendezvous for ministerial candidates, supply and exchange ministers. Mrs. Morton was also much interested in church work, constant in attendance and the children always brought up to go to Sunday school.



THE MORTON HOME

The oldest daughter married a young man born and brought up in North Orange, the Reverend Sumner Ellis who was a brilliant writer and noted for his ease and grace in the pulpit and was called to some of the largest and most influential societies in the denomination to which he belonged, viz, Boston, Newark, Cincinnati, Milwaukee and Chicago. He was also honored with the title D. D. Balance of the Morton family of which there were six children, all lived lives of usefulness and were highly respected and honored. Charles, the youngest son, enlisted early in the Civil war for three years and when his term expired if, I am not greatly mistaken, re-enlisted for another term and was mustered out at the close of the war. He was wounded in one of the battles and incapacitated at the time and physically affected through life in consequence.

Mrs. Daniels, the only surviving member of the family and secretary of this Old Home day association for the past 16 years, is noted not only at home but abroad for her sterling qualities of devotion and faithfulness to the church and the various offices of trust she has been called upon to fill, not forgetting her valiant services in sustaining this organization which is worthy of our highest esteem and gratitude.

I have written at length regarding the home of the Mortons and of the family purely from a personal motive, because I felt it not only a pleasure but a duty inasmuch as I was personally acquainted with every one of the family and a frequent and welcome visitor as well, and also especially intimate with Charles who was about my age, and because I regarded the whole family worthy of special mention and I surely am glad of the opportunity to present a partial history of a family so well thought of, so highly esteemed and respected and so valuable to the community in the last century.

I am indeed thankful for the suggestion that prompted the placing a view of the Morton home and surroundings on the invitation, as that alone led me to present this as my contribution at this time.

A. E. Brooks, 1923.





MERRILL D. HERRICK  
FIRST PRESIDENT OF REUNION ASSOCIATION AND SELECTMAN  
OF ORANGE 25 YEARS

## Selectmen

Saville Metcalf, 1783, '84, '85, '86, '87, '89; Elijah Ball, 1783; Nathan Goddard, 1783, '84; Hananiah Temple, 1784; John Davis, 1785, '86, '87, 1819, '20, '21; Benjamin Mayo, 1785; Jonathan Ward, 1786, '87; Edward Ward, 1788; Levi Cheney, 1788, '89, '90, 1803, '04, '05; John Ellis, 1788; Samuel Briggs, 1790, '91, '98, '99, 1800; Ebenezer Foskett, 1790, '91, '92; Benjamin Dexter, 1791, '92, '93, 1808; Joseph Metcalf, 1792, '93, '94, 1806; Jonathan Goddard, 1793, '94, '95, Nehemiah Ward, 1794, '95, '96; Nathaniel Cheney, 1795, '96, '97; Oliver Chapin, 1796, '97, '98, 1803, '04, '06; Ebenezer Atwood, 1797, '98, '99; Amos Woodward, 1789, '99, 1800, '01, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '17, '18, '19; Moses Cheney, 1800, '01, '02; Samuel Ruggles, 1801, '02; Oliver Estey, 1802; Zina Goodale, 1803, '04, '05, '29, '30; Josiah Cobb, 1805, '07, '08, '09, '13; Seth Ellis, 1806; Joseph Lord, 1807; Nathan Cheney, 1807; Perley Barton, 1809, '10, '11, '12; Thomas Cobb, 1810, '11, '22; David Cleaveland, 1812; Ebenezer Goddard, 1813, '14, '15, '16; David Cheney 1813, '14, '15; Nathan Ward, 1814, '15, '16, '20, '26, '27, '28; Peter Sibley, 1816; Seth Ellis, Jr., 1817, '18, '28; Lyman Harrington, 1817, '18; Calvin Mayo, 1819; Moses Johnson, 1820, '21, '22, '30, '31; Allen Harrington, 1821, '22, '25, '26; George Wheelock, 1823, '24, '25; Moses Smith, 1823, '24, '25; Nathaniel Jenerson, 1823, '24; Stephen Bliss, 1826, '27; J. R. Whipple, 1827, '28, '29; Daniel Moore, 1829; Russell Barnes 1830; Sherman Bacon, 1831, '32; Hiram Woodward, 1831, '32, '33, '34, '35, '36; Moses Morton, 1832, '33, '34; Josiah Goddard, 1833, '40, '41, '46, '47, '49, '50; Otis Brooks, 1834, '35, '37; Salmon Howard, 1835, '37, '38; Willard Ward, 1836; Benjamin Mayo, (2nd) 1836; Percival Blodgett, 1837, '38, '39; Hillel Baker, 1842, '43, '44, '45, '51; Asa A. Ward, 1847; Jonathan Kendall, 1847, '49; Peter Moore, 1849; John D.

Flagg, 1851, '55, '65, '66, '67, '68, '69, 1870, '74, '75; Daniel Mayo, 1852, '53; Philbrook Worrick, 1854, '57, '71, '72, '73, '76, '78, '79; Admiral A. Ward, 1858, '59, '60, '61, '62, '63; H. Nelson Moore, 1864; Merrill D. Herrick, 1877, '80, '81, '82, '83, '84, '85, '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94, '95, '96, '97, '98, '99, 1900, '01, '02, '03; Hoyt U. Wakefield, 1905, '06, '07, '08, '09, '10, '11, '12, '13, '14, '15.

## Members of the Massachusetts Legislature

Josiah Cobb, Amos Woodward, Perley Barton, Thomas Cobb, Hiram Woodward, Jesse Worrick, Josiah Goddard, Benjamin Mayo, Joel Davis, Admiral A. Ward, (Served both as Senator and Representative), Percival Blodgett, (Served both as Senator and Representative) John D. Flagg.

Hillel Baker went as delegate to the Constitutional Convention which met in Boston, May 4, 1853.

Doctors who practiced in North Orange are Doctor Perley Barton and Doctor Dean.

## Military History

As North Orange was not incorporated until 1783 it did not share in the War of the Revolution as a town, but the muster rolls of Revolutionary soldiers bear the names of many who made Orange. Of the 117 heads of families in Orange in 1791, more than half had served in the War of the Revolution. They responded quickly to the first alarm in 1775 and later were distributed throughout the Continental army, being found at Boston, Cambridge, Dorchester, White Plains, Ticonderoga, Tarrytown, Rhode Island, Bennington, Canada, Saratoga and other places. At the time of their enlistment they were inhabitants of those estates set off from Athol, Warwick and Royalston to form Orange and also of other towns more distant. Their time of service varied from a few days to the whole war period. North Orange would like to inscribe upon her records the names of all these men who helped to win liberty for our country, but owing to the difficulty of getting reliable statistics, only an incomplete record of names can be given.

With Mr. William Lord's permission we give from his list of Revolutionary soldiers, those living in that part of Athol which is now Orange: Ephraim Cady, Ephraim Cheney of Warwick, who served in Captain Thomas Lord's company, also in Captain Iehabod Dexter's company, John Cutting, Jotham Death, Benjamin Dexter, Captain Iehabod Dexter, William Lord, Asa Lord, Silas Marble, Abner Morton, Thomas Stow, Moses Goddard.

From Warwick, went Ebenezer Cheney, Jr., a musician," a bugler in the band, but a musket in action," Moses Cheney, Joseph French, William Gould, Asa Heminway, Job Maeomber, Samuel Pitts, Benjamin Porter, Daniel Thayer. From that part of Royalston now North Orange, David Bullock, John Ellis. From more distant towns went Asa Albee, Sherebiah Baker, Elijah Ball, John Beal, Amos Boyden, Samuel Briggs, Oliver Chapin, one of Washington's bodyguard; Daniel Cheney, Levi Chapin, Samuel Collier, Uriah Collier, Uriah Collier, Jr., Daniel Davison, Joseph Downe, Jacob French, Solomon Gates, Phineas Hammond, Daniel Harrington, Jason Harrington, Samuel Heminway, Zahath Higgins, John Hill, Jeduthan Holden, Jonathan Houghton, Elisha Johnson, Solomon Johnson, David Legg, William Legg, Joseph Metcalf, Silas Metcalf, William Mills, Tyler Perry, Ebenezer Petty, Perez Richmond, Abiel Saddler, Zephaniah Smith, Nathaniel Stearns, John Stowe, Joel Thayer, William Tolley, Alexander Wheelock, Elisha White, Nathaniel Woodcock.

North Orange holds them in grateful remembrance.



THE FISH PLACE \*

### WAR OF 1812-1814

Samuel Albee, (Alber), Ebenezer Atwood, Josiah Ball, Elkanah Briggs, John Davis, Aseph Foskett, Joel Johnson, John Lewis, Luther Lord, Vashni Lord, Philip Martin, Stephen Mayo, Jason Phinney, Savel Thayer, Jonas Ward, Joseph Washburn, Zaecheus Wheeler, Jr., (perhaps of Athol), Josiah Wheelock, Abner Whitney, Paul Whittaker, David Wilmarth, (Wilmouth), Benjamin Wood, Jr.

### MEXICAN WAR

Daniel Baker, George Flagg, Russell Ward.

### CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

The Selectmen of Orange in 1861, '62 and '63 were Admiral A. Ward, North Orange, with Darwin Merriam and Davis Goddard of Orange; in 1864, Davis Goddard; Darwin Merriam, Orange and H. Nelson Moore, North Orange; in 1865, A. J. Clark and Thomas E. Bridge, Orange and John D. Flagg, North Orange. John W. Wheeler was Town Clerk and W. S. Ballou, Treasurer, during these years. To these men those years of Civil War brought new and heavy responsibilities, namely, filling the town's contingents of men and appropriating money for bounties and other military purposes.

1861, May 6, the town voted "to raise \$5000 to arm and equip a company of volunteers and to support their families. One dollar a day was allowed each man for drilling for 30 days under a drill-master and ten dollars a month while in active service, in addition to the Government pay." Davis Goddard, Rodney Hunt, Levi Kilburn, Orange, with Hillel Baker and Admiral A. Ward, North Orange, were appointed a committee to carry this vote of the town into effect and to see that the families of the volunteers were properly cared for. The resolution adopted, reads, "Resolved. That in the present crisis of our national affairs (ignoring all political party divisions) it is the duty of all good citizens to come boldly forward and vindicate before the world the justice of our cause, and show our patriotism to the Union and its free institutions by contributing liberally from the means we possess in aid of a common cause."

\* This is the only brick house in North Orange or Tully, and was built from bricks made on the place. It was erected by Ebenezer Goddard, a prosperous farmer, who sold it to Humphrey Smith.

Honorable to the people of the town was the whole-heartedness with which they supported this resolution.

As the war progressed there was a great demand for labor as well as a demand for volunteers. The wages of a workman became much greater than the pay of an enlisted man and while the workman found the demands of patriotism urgent, so also were the demands of his family for support. As a means of equalizing these demands, bounties were paid to volunteers and State Aid to their families.

1862, July 26. The town voted to pay each volunteer for three years service a bounty of \$100 and to each volunteer for nine months service \$50 when mustered in and credited to the quota of the town. The next month the bounty to 9-months men was increased to \$100. 1864, November 8, the town bounty was fixed at \$125. Citizens often added personal contributions to this amount; thus in addition to his bounty, each volunteer before leaving for the front was furnished by citizens with from two to twenty-five dollars for immediate use.

Nor should we forget the constant energy and ardor with which the women of North Orange worked in behalf of the soldiers. At their "Soldiers' Aid Meetings" held in different houses, the women rolled bandages, scraped lint, made quilts and underwear. These with other material for the comfort of soldiers in hospital, field and camp were packed in boxes and forwarded to the Christian and Sanitary commissions to be through them sent to the army and hospitals. The total value of articles forwarded to these commissions by the women of North Orange is given as \$800. At a levee in N. L. Johnson's hall, January 28, 1863, the sum of \$113.55 was raised "to help the boys who fight for us."

To President Lincoln's call for 75000 men on that memorable 15th of April, 1861, North Orange responded quickly. We learn from the Adjutant General's records that Orange furnished 209 men for the Civil War,—a surplus of ten over and above all demands. Of that number the following may be credited to North Orange. The list was taken from the Adjutant General's records.

15th Regiment, Co. C. Three years men. George Stafford 18; mustered in February 18, 1862. Died July 17, 1862.

21st Regiment, Co. A. Mustered in August 23, 1861. Three years men. Converse Mayo, 17, discharged for disability December 7, 1862. Wm. H. Mellen, Corporal, 18, discharged August 30, 1864 at expiration of service.

25th Regiment, Co. I. Mustered in October 3, 1861. Three years men. John S. Brown, 29, discharged for wounds, October 2, 1862. Benjamin W. Mayo, Sergeant, 25, discharged October 8, 1864 at expiration of service. Charles Morton, 19, discharged January 18, 1864 at expiration of service to re-enlist January 19, 1864; discharged July 14, 1865 at expiration of service. Augustus Temple, 24, discharged March 19, 1863 for disability. Marcus H. Ward, 24, taken prisoner at Chowan River, April 16, 1863; exchanged July 17, 1863, wounded at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; died at Washington, D. C., June 28, 1864.

26th Regiment, Co. I, Marcellus A. Lothrop, 38; enlisted August 28, 1862; discharged January 4, 1864 to re-enlist.

36th Regiment, Co. H. Mustered in August 27, 1862 for three years. Augustus E. Bliss, 18; died of disease July 24, 1863 at Milldale, Miss. Henry Boyden, 26; died of disease August 15, 1863 at Vicksburg, Miss. Artemas W. Goddard, 23; transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, January 5, 1864. William H. Goddard, 21; died in hospital at Louisville, Ky., August 17, 1863. Henry Mayo, Corporal, 21; died of wounds received in battle of the Wilderness, Va., May 11, 1864. Jonathan W. Mellen, 37, discharged for disability December 8, 1863. Sumner Moore, 28, discharged June 8, 1865 at expiration of service. Jerome Pierce, Corporal, 31, promoted to Sergeant; killed in action at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864. Joseph H. Pierce, 18, taken prisoner at Pegram Farm, September 30, 1864; exchanged; discharged June 21, 1865 at expiration of service.





NATHAN JOHNSON PLACE AND UNION HALL

Osgood Rich, 25, discharged April 23, 1864 for disability. William N. Smith, 20, promoted Corporal. Wounded in battle of Wilderness, 1864; discharged December 23, 1864 for disability. Edwin Stevens, 39, killed in action at Campbell's Station, Tenn., November 16, 1863. Edmund S. Ward, 25; died June 18, 1864 from wounds received in action near Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864. Hiram C. Woodward, 40, died of disease at Camp Dennison, Cairo, Ill., August 10, 1863. 52nd Regiment, Co. F. Nine months men. Dennis Goddard, 27, discharged August 14, 1863 at expiration of service. Gamaliel D. Goddard, 18, discharged August 14, 1863 at expiration of service. David D. Mellen, 26, killed by sharpshooters at Port Hudson, June 24, 1863. Daniel Stearns, 43; died at Port Hudson July 22, 1863. Henry R. Stowell, Corporal, 27; discharged August 14, 1863 at expiration of service. Solomon Wakefield, 33; discharged at expiration of service, August 14, 1863.

3rd Cavalry. Henry L. Temple, 16, died of measles May 17, 1864 at Galoupe's Island, Boston Harbor.

Navy. A. D. Foskett.

It is known that Warren Flagg and .....Hodgkins enlisted, but no record of their names has been found.

Nor must we forget to mention those removed from North Orange, who from towns far and near, went forth to serve their country. Among those we recall are: John Q. Adams who died in Marengo, Ill., November 10, 1922. Dr. Adams served during the duration of the war in Co. H, 95th Illinois infantry. He took part in many notable engagements and for an act of bravery during the siege of Vicksburg, was awarded a silver medal by the Government. Captain Joseph G. Ball who lost an arm while in service; Alexander Lord, wounded at Antietam; killed in the battle of Gettysburg July, 1863; Henry Dwight Smith, Sergeant-

Major in 1st Vermont Cavalry, taken prisoner January 29, 1864 and kept in Andersonville prison six months. Uzziel P. Smith, Lieutenant in McAllister's Battery from Chicago. James B. Smith, brother of Dwight and Uzziel Smith was at the age of 23 first lieutenant in the 25th Massachusetts Volunteers. Ten months later the organization of the 36th Regiment was completed and August 22, 1862, Lieutenant Smith was commissioned Captain of Co. K. of the 36th; commanded the regiment from June 3, 1864 to July 18, 1864. Provost Marshal, Second Division 9th Army Corps, July 20, 1864, to close of war; wounded in action at battle of Pegram Farm, September 30, 1864. Major, October 12, 1864; mustered out with the regiment June 8, 1865 as Major Brevet Colonel, U. S. Volunteers "for gallant and meritorious service in the field during the war." Philip G. Woodward at the age of 25 returned from Minnesota to enter the Union Army with the 36th Regiment; Sergeant of Co. H. 36th Regiment, August 6, 1862; Second Lieutenant, October 26, 1863; First Lieutenant May 15, 1864; wounded in action at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864; Captain, October 11, 1864; mustered out with the regiment at close of the war. Warner C. Woodward, 27 years; mustered in August 4, 1862, 36th Regiment. Promoted Corporal. Discharged for disability, December 23, 1864. Wesley A. Woodward, 21, enlisted in the 27th at Athol, March 28, 1862. Taken prisoner; died at Andersonville, Ga., August 21, 1864.

With so many of its sons and friends in the 36th Regiment, North Orange counts it a matter of pride that in all of its arduous service the 36th never lost a color or a flag. The women of Worcester presented the regiment on the day of its departure from Worcester, a flag. "Soiled and rent, its staff shattered," this flag which was carried by the regiment throughout its entire period of service, is now preserved in the State House in Boston, with the flags of the Massachusetts regiments.

Veterans of the Civil War,—Edward Baker, Massachusetts Navy, S. F. Daniels of the 52nd and 60th Mass. Regiment, John Holston, who died February 18, 1923 at the age of 100 years; W. W. Weedon, 3rd Michigan Cavalry, and Adriel White, 53rd Regiment were highly esteemed residents of North Orange for many years.

Everett Davis, 1st. Mass. Cavalry and Dwight E. Clements, 10th Vermont, are surviving veterans now living in North Orange.

Mrs. Adriel White and Mrs. S. F. Daniels are the only surviving widows of veterans of the Civil War, in North Orange.

The name of no North Orange man has been found among the Spanish War Veterans.

Names of soldiers in the World War: Earl Bosworth, Floyd French, Henry A. Gale, Geddis Hitchcock, Arthur Lundgren, George Mason, Henry Mason, Clifford D. Newton, Jesse C. Worrick. Ellery Flagg enlisted in Athol; registered on the Athol roll.

## Mustered Out

"They live, the fallen live, though ages fly;  
God made the right eternal, its defenders never die."

In the cemeteries of North Orange, sleep the soldiers of three wars.

Soldiers of the Revolution: Amos Boyden, Daniel Harrington, Silas Marble, Samuel Moore, Tyler Perry, Benjamin Porter, Aaron Smith, Alexander Wheelock, all rest in North Orange cemetery.

Soldiers of 1812-1814: Stephen Mayo in North Orange cemetery; Captain Ebenezer Atwood and John Davis in the Jones cemetery; John Lewis and Zina Goodell in Tully cemetery.

Soldiers of the Civil War: George P. Ward in North Orange cemetery; Henry Foskett, Alexander Lord, George Stafford, Marcus H. Ward, Nathan W. Ward, Peter S. Ward in Jones cemetery; Augustus Bliss, S. F. Daniels, J. E. Forrester, J. Greenleaf, M. R. Hartshorn, Amos Holden, B. W. Mayo, Henry Mayo, David Mellen, Sumner Moore, Charles Morton, Osgood Rich, Augustus Temple, Henry Temple, Edmund Ward, W. W. Weeden, Adriel White in Tully cemetery.

## The Temple Family

The greatest value of the Old Home day in New England is the revival and cultivation of interest in the local history of the country towns. Historical facts of early or later days are collected for these occasions and preserved for future reference. These become more and more valuable when opportunities for gathering such information pass away, as the years go on. Having left my native town in early years, my knowledge of its history has been limited but my interest in stories of its past still continues. When quite recently an old newspaper advertisement of 1805 fell into my hands, relating to a son of North Orange, it seemed to me that others, as well as myself might find it interesting. The author of the advertisement was Samuel Temple, born in North Orange, in May 1770, when the whole town was called Orange. From inquiries among his relatives, and elsewhere, we find that Samuel Temple was born on Temple Hill near the Zina Goodell homestead. His father, Hananiah Temple, was one of the early settlers of the town. He had three sons and three daughters. Samuel and his brother, Daniel, both graduated from Dartmouth college. One sister was the mother of Rev. Henry Barber of Warwick, now a professor in the Meadville Theological school. Another sister, Anna, was the mother of Mrs. Royal Ward. Samuel's mother hoped her sons, after graduating from college, would go into the ministry, but there is no record of either of them preaching. Samuel married and settled in Dorchester, where for many years he was a prominent and useful citizen of Norfolk county. Samuel Temple had two sons, one Hananiah, named for his grandfather of Temple Hill, North Orange. These two sons were prominent citizens of Dorchester, and a grandson was for some time the register of deeds for Suffolk county. Many of the noted family of Temples in New England bore titles of honor and occupied high official positions under the government. But this is not of their English ancestry. It is only a brief sketch of Samuel, a son of Orange. He was an excellent teacher, a ready writer and the author of several standard school books. He was also the author of several music books. Later in life he kept for several years a country store in a building then standing on a portion of the site of Thayer Tavern, at Dorchester and Milton Lower Mills. He afterwards removed across the bridge into Milton, where he died in 1815. The "Arch" alluded to in the advertisement was erected over the bridge between the towns of Dorchester and Milton. It commemorated the ratification of John Jay's treaty with England, although it was not built until two years after the notable event. It bore in letters of gold the following inscription: "We unite in defense of Our Country, and of its Laws, 1778."

The old fashioned advertisement is a true picture of an old time country store, when gin, brandy and rum were sold as freely as soap and candles. This is the "Advertisement Extra," written in rhyme: To be sold at the store opposite the Arch over Milton Bridge, the following articles, viz:

Salt pork and powder, shot and flints,  
Cheese, sugar, rum and peppermints.

Tobacco, raisins, flour and spice,  
Flax, cotton, wool and sometimes rice.

Old Holland gin and gingerbread,  
Brandy and wine, all sorts of thread,

Segars I keep, sometimes one bunch,  
Materials all for making punch,

Biscuit and butter, eggs and fishes,  
Molasses, beer and earthen dishes,

Books on such subjects as you'll find  
A proper food to feast the mind,

Hand soap and candles, tea and snuff,  
Tobacco, pipes, perhaps enough,

Shells, chocolate and Stetson's shoes  
As good as can be I suppose,

Straw hats, oat baskets, oxen muzzles,  
A thing which many people puzzles,

Knives, forks, spoons, plates, mugs, pitchers and platters,  
A gun with shot wild geese bespatters,

Spades, shovels, whetstones, scythes and rakes,  
As good as any person ever makes,

Shirts, frocks, shoes, mittens, also hose,  
And many other kinds of clothes,

Shears, scissors, awls, wire, bonnet paper,  
Old violin and cat-gut scraper,

Tubs, buckets, pails and pudding pans,  
Bandanna handkerchiefs and fans,

Shagbarks and almonds, wooden boxes,  
Steel traps (not stout enough for foxes),

But excellent for holding rats,  
When they elude the paws of cats,

It's more than 40 kinds of drugs,  
Some good for worms, and some for bugs,

Lee's, Anderson's and Dexter's pills,  
Which cure at least a hundred ills,

Perfumes most grateful to the nose,  
When mixed with snuff, or dropped on clothes,

I've many things I shall not mention,  
To sell them cheap is my intention.

Lay out a dollar when you come,  
And you shall have a glass of rum.

N. B.  
Since man to man is so unjust,  
'Tis hard to say whom I can trust,  
I've trusted many to my sorrow,  
Pay me today. I'll trust tomorrow.

*Mrs. D. P. Hudson, 1913.*





THE ELLIS FAMILY HOMESTEAD

## The Ellis Family

Remarks on the Ellis family by Walter F. Ellis, great grandson of Seth Ellis, Jr. at the 17th annual North Orange reunion.

In this busy work-a-day world, every man selects and learns to love as home, some particular locality, where he establishes his business and his residence, but I envy neither the ambition nor the affections of him who does not often turn with longing to the associations and friendships of his childhood home, and the scenes and remembrances of his ancestors.

"We see them in our sweetest dreams,  
These fruitful hills and flowing streams,  
And listen with a half drawn sigh  
To melodies of days gone by."

In his novel "Old Mortality," Sir Walter Scott sketches the life of Robert Paterson, who for 40 years traveled among the hills and valleys of Scotland, visiting the places where the Covenanters, fallen in the wars of the previous century, lay buried. Sir Walter tells us that Paterson, going to the cemeteries, would reset the fallen tablets, clear away the moss from the stones and recut the inscriptions carved on the monuments, recording the names and records of those who slept beneath. A somewhat similar service calls us here today. We meet in a place made dear by the memories of our fathers. Like "Old Mortality," we revisit the scenes of their labors, brush away some of the dust that has obscured the story of their lives, and chisel deeper into our hearts the record of their virtues and high character. Because I have devoted some attention,

in spare hours, to the records of the early Ellis', it has been suggested that I give a brief account of this branch of the family which established the Ellis name in Orange. In 1635, John Ellis came from England to Boston, and the following year he was one of the first proprietors of the town of Dedham, where he married Susanna Lombard and his first two children were born. He became a Freeman, was admitted to the church in 1640, and was a prominent citizen. In 1650 he became one of the 13 original grantees of the town of Medfield, where he lived until his death in 1697. His daughter Hannah, born in April 1651, was the first white child born in Medfield. He established his home on the tract allotted him on the present Main street, and built a log house. After the town was burned by the Indians in 1676, he built a substantial farm dwelling, having a central chimney, and a long kitchen under the low sloping roof, which was taken down in 1890, but a good photograph of which is in existence. He served as selectman for seven years, and received many public appointments at the hands of his fellow citizens. His oldest son John 2, born in Dedham in 1646, lived in Medfield for 25 years, and became in 1675 one of the proprietors of Medway, a town set off from Medfield, at the west side of the Charles river. He married first Mary Herring and had five children, second, Mary Hill, whose son Samuel was the father of the first Ellis in Orange. When he was first married in 1677 he built a house at Rockville Corner, East Medway, which was standing within my recollection, but was burned in 1888. John's youngest son, Samuel 3, born 1699, inherited his father's estate in Medway, where he lived for nearly 50 years, with his wife, Dorothy Hall, by whom he had eight children. Samuel died in 1769, aged 70, and his wife survived him 21 years, reaching the advanced age of 90. The grave stones of both Samuel and Dorothy are in the old cemetery at East Medway, now Millis, not far from the home of the famous Cliquot Club ginger ale. From my study of the local records and Samuel's will I believe him to be one of our most interesting Ellis ancestors. A sturdy New England farmer, he and his wife lived together 50 years, less four weeks, and brought up their five sons and three daughters to be capable law abiding citizens, all of whom married and lived to a good age. By his industry and thrift, he amassed a considerable property which by his will he distributed very impartially among his children. The oldest son of Samuel and Dorothy was John (4) Ellis, born in Medway, October 28, 1723. At the age of 23 he married Mary Baker, a daughter of Abijah J., Dorchester, and removed to Medfield, where his eight children were born. About the year 1780, an emigration from Mendon, Medfield and Bellingham, brought several to Warwick,—The Cheneys, Goodells, Goddards and Ellis families. John Ellis was one of these pioneers, with his wife and three sons, Seth, Moses and Nathan. After 1791 the names of Moses and Nathan disappear from the local records. John Ellis settled on the land near Tully Brook, since known as the Ellis place, and built a house on the knoll opposite the present one. This earlier house was removed to Athol about 1870. John was active in church and town affairs from the beginning, was moderator of the first meeting in August, 1781, to discuss plans for the new town of Orange, and was elected in 1782 first commissioner of the new church. He contributed toward the church building fund, to the fund to support a minister, and to the special fund of 100 pounds to settle Rev. Emerson Foster, the first minister. In the first allotment of pews he paid \$35 for pew 28, and \$28 for pew 25 in the name of his son Seth. He was selectman in 1888 and held many minor town offices. John and Mary Ellis lived together more than 58 years, she dying in 1804, aged 80, and he in 1816 at the age of 92. His grave is in the old cemetery at North Orange. His son, Seth 5, who was not 21 when he came to this locality as a pioneer with his father, married in 1783, Elizabeth Rawson, a daughter of Josiah, who had come



THE STORE AND POST OFFICE, WHERE THEY STILL GATHER AT MAIL TIME

from Grafton to settle in Warwick. This Josiah was a descendant of Edward Rawson, the first secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1650 to 1686. Seth and Elizabeth carried on the farm during the declining years of his father and their four children were born in the Ellis house. He was interested, like his father, in the church during its early years, and was selectman in 1806. His wife Elizabeth died in 1818, and he married second, Mrs. Joanna (Cheney) Goodell, widow of Zina Goodell and grandmother of your venerable poetess, Mrs. Elvira (Goodell) Ballou. Seth died in 1840 at the age of 80, and his grave is in the old cemetery. His oldest son Seth (6) Jr., was born in 1784. At the age of 20 he married Susanna Cheney, the daughter of Ebenezer, one of his most prominent and prosperous neighbors. The present Ellis house was built by Seth, Jr., at the time of his marriage in 1804. He and his wife, Susanna lived together 50 years, less two days. They had 10 children of whom seven grew to maturity. Seth, Jr., was selectman in 1817, 1818, 1828. He was assessor of the First Church in 1827. In 1853 he bought at auction pew 11 for \$53. Some of you remember Seth Ellis who died in 1854, and many of you recall his widow, who lived on the farm and carried it on with assistance until her death in 1870, after which it was sold out of her family. Of the children of Seth and Susanna, Caroline married Robert Turner and removed to Michigan; Orin, my grandfather, left home at the age of 20 and went to Maine, where he married Mary Phillips Brown, and had one son, my father; Cheney married Fanny and Louisa Forrester; Edwin married Lois L. Wood of North Orange, and owned the sash and blind shop in Athol; Roxanna married Charles Temple; Joseph Warren married Hannah and Esther Wheelock; Sumner married Mary Jane Morton, sister of your present secretary, and became a Universalist minister. My investigation of this branch of the Ellis family convinces me its members have maintained a pronounced reputation for independence of thought, industry and general intelligence. Several of these men have been real pioneers.

John of Medfield, John of Medway and John of Orange were each in their time, prominent in the establishment of a new Massachusetts town. They have been a long lived race, Seth Jr. and his five grandfathers, back to the first John, all having lived beyond the age of 70. Liberals in religion, they have been active in church and town affairs and have in every generation added honor to the family name. In this brief summary of their lives, we honor our ancestors today for what they accomplished in a new country, with infinite toil and danger; but much more do we honor them for what they were. They loved God and they loved their fellowmen, they feared God but they feared no man. They set their principles high above the tranquil enjoyment of an easy living. We must likewise teach our children that the object of human life is not greatness but goodness, that the true philosopher's stone is a high standard of human virtue, that the highest demand on a human being is to do well the duty that lies nearest and make the world better by his having lived in it. All men cannot be great but all men can be good. All men cannot reach what are sometimes falsely estimated as the principles of desirable eminence, but every man can be respected. All men cannot exert a wide influence, but every man may be a blessing to the circle of friends and relatives that surrounds him. Because of the type of men who were the founders of New England, the people of this section of the United States are still strong on the moral qualities. Dean Briggs of Harvard University puts it well:

"Be it mountain, glade or prairie,  
Be it city strong or fair,  
Be it east or west that his eyes shall rest,  
He sees New England there.

Be it east or west that his eyes shall rest,  
New England stands the same,  
For God and the right, at the front of the fight  
Are the men that bear her name.

For the message of the Master  
She has breathed with every breath,  
And come what will, New England still  
Shall be faithful unto death."

## Some of the Town Worthies

I want to speak of some who were once a working force in this community, and as the clairvoyants say in describing those who have passed over—I see a man who was prominent, occupying positions of honor and trust, and yet while he was a worker and leader, he was approachable, more than ordinarily agreeable and one of the most industrious men I ever knew. I had the good fortune to board at his house one winter when I taught school in this district and I was surprised to find the energetic hard working man that he was, up early in the morning while others were sleeping, and constantly at it through the day, toiling incessantly; an admirable characteristic in any one. This man was Philbrook Worrick.

Another man I see who lived nearly opposite, Moses Morton, a man of honor and integrity, faithful in every thing he did, a constant attendant and generous contributor to this church and a man who commanded the honor and respect of the whole town. It was my pleasure to visit there often, probably more often than any other place in town and thus I became acquainted and can speak with thorough knowledge and accuracy. About every child in this part of the town wore boots or shoes made by Moses Morton and I can





REAR OF WORRICK'S MILL—SHOW US A CITY CHARM LIKE THIS

testify to the wearing qualities, indeed, that was the greatest objection to them, for children occasionally want a new pair, but I never heard the parents complain.

Further down the street we came to a man of unquestioned integrity, kind, gentle, affable and in speech one of the most methodical, precise persons I ever knew, indeed this was his greatest and most important characteristic. I enjoy listening to any one whose every word and sentence is spoken with such exactness as to attract attention and command respect—such a man was Hillel Baker. He was postmaster for many years and when called to his eternal rest was mourned by every one and his loss felt to be a public calamity.

A little further down the street we see the busy, bustling merchant, N. L. Johnson, and his wife, both of whom were active, not only about home, but in every enterprise and gathering of a local character inaugurated. They were leaders in the social world. It was my good fortune to make my home with them one full year while I occupied the position of clerk in their store and I want to testify today to the courtesy and kindness which they always accorded me, making me feel perfectly at home and under great obligations to them, and it certainly is a great pleasure and privilege to have this opportunity to publicly express my appreciation of their many good qualities.

N 7 I would not feel that I had done my full duty if I omitted the name of N. E. Blodgett from the list of those who were active in this little hamlet. For be it known that Mr. Blodgett had the enviable reputation of being the best blacksmith in any of the surrounding towns and people came from far and near to secure his services. Besides this he carried the Congregational society (as it were) on his shoulders, moving the chapel on to his own lot and earing for it, seeing that it had repairs when needed, furnishing fuel, lights, and even a pastor, making up any deficiency in running expenses himself, but this was not all that he was interested in. He kept abreast of the times by reading and study, indeed I can see him now sitting in Mr. Johnson's store, tipped back

in a chair with his feet on the stove scanning the daily paper, oblivious to any thing that was going on around him or about him. He was also more than ordinarily musically inclined, a good singer and sang not alone, as some do, with the vocal organs, but his whole body was rising, swelling and swaying with the music as it changed in rhythm or volume—a man surely of many and varied characteristics.

I see another man, not so prominent in many ways as some, but one whom I had great respect for, because of his hospitality. His latch string was always out for the young people. They were always made welcome whenever opportunity offered. I have enjoyed many a pleasant evening at the home of Nathaniel Forrester. He was what you might term an emotional character. He had a tender spot in his heart as I noticed frequently when talking with him, tears coming to his eyes and then suddenly his countenance would change to joy and laughter, showing how easily he was affected for good or ill. At one time croquet was the leading out-door amusement and the Park the favorite ground for it, a game he enjoyed in the extreme, and I see him now as he was wont to strike the ball, his left foot flying up as mechanically as though lifted by machinery. I enjoy thinking of and referring to these little incidents at these gatherings and believe that they do us good and bind us more closely together.

One other person I wish to refer to who came among us later but who was here a long time occupying a prominent place as pastor at the chapel, Rev. Mr. Garman. It is only a year or two since he passed away. I refer to him not alone because of his prominence but he had one characteristic which I consider remarkable and one which we might any of us emulate with profit to ourselves and benefit to others. I refer to his disposition. I never remember seeing him ruffled no matter what the subject or with whom he was talking. I have myself discussed with him many topics, such as politics, religion, temperance, etc., but always found him tolerable and truly placid, yet earnest. I believe there are enough good qualities in all the characters I have portrayed, if we cared to be influenced by them, to make us all better and happier and I trust this effort of mine has not been so worthless or uninteresting as to destroy the effect I had in mind, of calling to memory some of those who were once active in this place and whose good works would serve to make us wiser and better.

A. E. Brooks. 1908.

John D. Flagg, son of Jonathan and Eunice Dana Flagg, was born in Tully, December 29, 1817. After his marriage to Margaret Barber, August 18, 1842, he lived for a while in Northfield. During this period he drove a four-horse team from Warwick to Boston to get provisions. Returning to North Orange, his efficiency in town affairs was recognized by his frequent election for selectman. In this capacity he served the town for ten years. He was also assessor and overseer of the poor for many years; was census taker in 1865 and was sent as representative to the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1871. Mr Flagg's honesty and integrity were such that the town seemed to have lost something essential with his departure.

Merrill D. Herriek, chairman of the board of selectmen of Orange died in March, 1904. He was nominated for selectman and overseer of the poor for the 25th time at the citizens' caucus on February 24, and he would have been elected Monday by his usual large majority. Merrill D. Herriek was born in Royalston in 1844, the son of Marshall Herriek, and he spent his boyhood days working on his father's farm and attending school in his native town. When a young man, he went to the neighboring village of Blissville, in the town of Orange, where he found employment in the Harrington furniture shop, and he



THE DANIELS HOME

also worked in woodworking shops in Tully. His health was never robust, and he gave up the shop and returned to farming and outside labor. He was well-known in eastern Franklin as an auctioneer. Mr. Herriek was first elected on the board of selectmen of Orange in 1877, and with the exception of two years he had served as the North Orange representative on the board since that time. He was of good executive ability, and while he faithfully represented his part of the town he enjoyed the reputation of being a level-headed town official, and had the distinction of receiving the largest number of votes ever given for a selectman in Orange. He was an unassuming, genial and kindly man, honest, honorable and fair with every one, and was always ready to do a favor for any one who asked for it. During the time that he was selectman he was overseer of the poor, and the unfortunate of the town will miss a friend and a wise adviser. As the town almshouse was in his part of the town he always attended the funerals of the inmates, and he looked after every detail of the service and burial, and saw that their last wishes were carried out to the letter. He visited the almshouse often, and he always had a word of cheer and encouragement for the inmates, and his visits were looked forward to with pleasure. He loved Orange, and especially the part of the town where he made his home. He was active in the life of the village.

## Of North Orange Birth

### A Few Natives Who Have Won Success Abroad

Rev. Jonathan Forrester, D. D., a distinguished and able Universalist minister, was born December 8, 1824. He was the third child of a family of eight, and brother of Mrs. E. A. Gale. He left town to attend the High school

in Swanzev, N. H., and then entered the new Melrose seminary in West Brattleboro, with Sumner Ellis and others from North Orange. He finished his education under "Father" Loveland of the Universalist faith, then residing in Weston, Vt. Here he met his future wife, Julia Baldwin. He entered upon his first pastorate at the age of nineteen, which was a union of two churches in Reading and Chester, Vt., which he supplied alternately. His following charges were at Randolph, Vt., Erie, Penn., Aurora and Chicago, Ill., Newark, N. J., and the last part of his life he spent in failing health at Athol and Warwick. In the latter place he died, and was buried in Tully cemetery. His second wife was Mary Bowen, of Aurora, and his third wife, Nellie Porter of Chicago. He had three daughters and two sons.

Rev. Sumner Ellis, D. D., the youngest of ten children, was born near the base of Tully Mt., May 17, 1828. He was a son of Seth and Susanna (Cheney) Ellis. His ancestors back to his great grandparents were farmers. With the exception of access to the library of Rev. Levi Ballou, then Universalist pastor, his opportunities for study were limited until the age of 18, when he attended New Salem academy, of which Rev. Levi Ballou was a trustee, for a year. The next year he was among the first students at the new Melrose seminary at West Brattleboro. Miss Mary Jane Morton, his future wife, was also among the students there. Mr. Ellis now preached in Guilford, the town adjoining the seminary. Four years later he began special preparation for the ministry under Rev. Hosea Ballou 2nd D. D., at Medford. Dr. Ballou was afterwards elected president of Tufts college. Two years afterwards, Mr. Ellis began his ministry in the First Universalist church, Boston. He was pastor at Salem, Lynn, Milwaukee, Wis., Dubuque, Ia., Chicago, Ill., and Newark, N. J. He wrote the life of Edwin H. Chapin, D. D., which is found in our branch library, also "At Our Best;" or "Making the Most of Life," and "Hints on Preaching." In Chicago he married again, Mrs. A. M. Hall, a friend of his youth. They went abroad fifteen months and six weeks after their return he died January 26, 1886. He was buried in Tully cemetery. Edwin Ellis, late of Athol, was a brother of the above, and was long a successful and prominent business man in Athol, which town he represented in the legislature. He was born in 1822, and died in 1888. He served the town in many important offices.

Rev. Levi Ballou, who for twenty-two years was pastor of the Universalist church in North Orange, had three sons born in this place: Hosea Starr of Brookline, Rev. William, and Maturin of Maroneek in eastern New York. They have each risen in the world beginning with the Orange high school and Tufts college of which their uncle was the first president. Maturin Ballou also graduated at Dean Academy, Franklin. He settled in New York state as a broker, where he has remained since. He married Miss Gately of Connecticut. They have no children. He is a devotee of golf and has won much renown as an expert.

Hosea S. Ballou graduated at Williston Seminary and studied abroad two years to prepare for journalism, but finding real estate more profitable he has since engaged in that business. He has a family of two boys. He is a very successful writer. In 1896 he wrote the life of Hosea Ballou, 2nd D. D. He is a member of three American historical societies as well as one in Paris.

Rev. William Ballou has spent his life in study and travel. After three years in the high school, one year in the Boston Latin school and two years in Tufts college, he retired to the Adirondack Mts. for recuperation. He spent nine years in the west, engaging in real estate in Devil's Lake, Minn., studying in Ann Arbor, Mich., and preaching in Fargo, N. D. He returned east taking a course of study at Cambridge after which he was settled as a pastor in the Universalist church in Amherst, Mass. Much to the regret of the people there he left for a winter in Europe. On his return he settled again in Fargo.



1841  
Hon. Percival Blodgett was born July 18, 1842. At the early age of 16 he left home to teach school. He was successful in this for some time in both Athol and Templeton. He entered Phillips Academy, Andover, which after a short course he was obliged to leave on account of his health. He then graduated at a prominent business college in Boston, after which he entered the general store business in Templeton. He was chosen representative to the legislature, and then senator. He served as selectman for 21 years, and then declined continuance of this office, as he remarked "he thought it was about time when he had reached his majority." He also was one of the school committee for a similar period. He gave the site of the Templeton Inn, a lot costing \$1000. The center of his activities of late has been the new electric road just completed in Templeton. He was the one who started the project, and has also a money interest in it. For his first wife he married Miss Georgia Worrick, also a native of this place, and daughter of the late Philbrook Worrick. They had a daughter, Miss Grace.

Hon. Benjamin W. Mayo, Jr., was born on the farm here known to old residents by that name. He left town for Templeton where he worked in Hon. P. Blodgett's store. He spent three years in the civil war. He finally settled in Turners Falls, where he is now living. He has been sent to the State legislature as representative. He has been postmaster and storekeeper for many years in Turners Falls.

Albee Smith, Esq. was born on the present Leon Lucier place. At the early age of 14, he entered Middlebury college, Vt. For a time his home was with his parents at North Cambridge, and then they moved to Chicago, where he married Miss Molly McClellan. They had six children. For many years he has practiced law successfully in Minneapolis.

Dr. Jonathan Goodell was one of a large family of children born on the Goodell homestead here. Early in life he settled in Lynn as a physician, where for years he has had an extensive and lucrative practice.

Nathan Cheney was one of the large family of Cheneys born in the west part of the village. He went to Boston early in life and achieved success and wealth as a merchant. His daughter was Ellen Cheney Johnson, who became noted in the work of prison reform and died abroad about a year ago. Two of Nathan Cheney's brothers were Amos and French of Athol, whose children are living there to-day. The Cheney branch has many ramifications, and several of the family have become distinguished in different ways.

*Athol Transcript. August 21, 1900.*

## The Patriarch of North Orange

This book would be incomplete without some reference to John C. Holston, properly called the Patriarch of North Orange. Mr. Holston died February 18, 1923 at the age of 100. Had he lived until the 21st of June he would have been 101. For 15 years he had made his home with his son, John D. Holston. On his 100th anniversary there was a notable gathering at the home when patriotic organizations in Orange and friends throughout the district gave him a reception which was keenly enjoyed by him and his well-wishers. He retained all his mental faculties at that time. It was a festive occasion with a family dinner at noon and the reception following in the afternoon. Remarks were made, reminiscences told and the songs which Mr. Holston liked so well, sung with the same spirit, if less vigor and adherence to the key, as in the days gone by. Bouquets of beautiful roses, over 100 in number, a large birthday cake and the warmest of greetings contrived to make the event a fitting testimonial to his long life and



JOHN HOLSTON AND THE HOLSTON HOUSE. THE HOUSE ONCE  
SERVED AS A TOLL GATE

as it proved, a final farewell. Many will remember with what pleasure they grasped his hand as he sat upon his bed and greeted the hundred or more who braved a "pouring" rain to do him honor.

Mr. Holston was a unique and interesting character, a sturdy son of the old school which thought for itself and spoke as it thought. He was one of those rugged types who seemed to thrive on labor and up to the age of 90 never flinched at a day's work. He was not unlike the proverbial hickory nut in his physical and mental make-up, a rugged New Englander, the like of which is pictured in book and drama. Mr. Holston had a war record of which he had reason to be proud.

Born at Portland, Me., he began his notable experiences at the age of three by shaking hands with Gen. Lafayette, being held in his mother's arms at the time. That he should have had fighting instincts was natural because his grandfather, William Hance, was so keen on doing his part in the country's fight for liberty that he walked from Portland, Me., to Boston, a distance of 150 miles, to take part in the Battle of Bunker Hill. He continued to fight throughout the Revolution, serving with distinction. The Civil war had scarcely broken out when John Holston, on March 10, 1862, enlisted for service in Andrews' Sharpshooters, attached to Co. 1, 15th Massachusetts regiment. He saw service under Gen. McClellan, taking part in the bloody battles of Yorktown, West Point, Fair Oaks, Savage Station, White Oak Swamps, Malvern Hill, second Bull Run, South Station and Antietam. In the latter battle he received wounds which incapacitated him for further service and which troubled him during the remainder of his life. It was a thigh wound and as a result, his legs became so impaired that during the last few years of his life they had become useless.

In the battle of Antietam he fell within the rebel lines, shot through the thigh, and lay on the ground for three days and two nights. Except for aid from a Confederate officer who gave him water and bound a towel around his leg to stop its bleeding, he was left to die, considered too far gone even to be taken prisoner. On the third night, however, the Confederates retreated, and he was rescued by the Union forces and carried to a barnyard where he was left eight days. He was finally taken to Frederick City and thence to Washington, where

he was placed in an old meeting house which had been converted into a hospital. While at Washington it was his fortune to find the rebel officer among a large number of prisoners who were brought in and he seized the opportunity to repay him for kindness received on the battle field of Antietam.

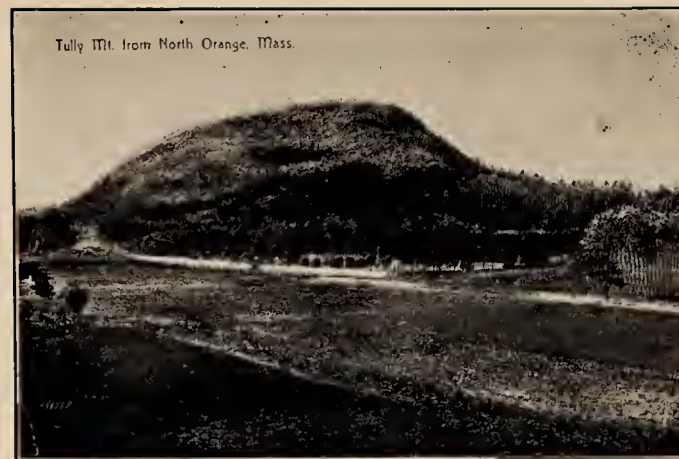
After the war Mr. Holston located in Wendell where he carried on a farm for 41 years. For 28 years under Governors Bullock, Washburn, Ames and Greenhalgh he served as justice of the peace, marrying 19 couples in that period. Mrs. Holston, whose maiden name was M. Maria Jackson, died in 1907 at the age of 77. When Mr. Holston went to live with his son in North Orange, the latter's wife's mother, Mrs. Alsamena Dudley, was also living there. She died at the age of 95 years and nine months, the two elderly people having enjoyed the comforts of their children's home together for seven years. Mr. Holston had voted for 20 presidential candidates, the first being cast for Henry Clay at Fryburg, Me. He had always voted the straight Republican ticket which he often contended was "good enough" for him. Although Mr. Holston was unable to get about during the past two or more years of his life he retained his mental capacities almost to the very last, finding much enjoyment in reading and conversing with people. He always liked a good joke and knew how to tell one, a fact which served to make him a good entertainer.

## The Sentinel Elm

The fair lands of Greece never boasted of a better example of beauty and grandeur among its druid forests than Sentinel Elm, the old guardian of the northern hills of Orange. This heroic, and beautiful tree has stood from time beyond recall, gloating in its supremacy as monarch of its own territory and watching over the landscape as a fond mother would watch and care for her children. People for miles around look to this old landmark with pride and reverence, rejoicing in its stateliness and calling attention to it with a fondness bordering on relationship. It is the only tree of similar proportion standing on one of the highest elevations in the vicinity, in fact one of the grandest views in New England can be obtained here. It commands a sweep of 150 miles and can be seen from a distance of 20 miles. In spite of storm and tempest it has stood its ground, a rugged old settler of the "northern hills." No matter in what direction one may travel, this tree can always be seen and as one native of North Orange remarked, he had lived 75 years and had never succeeded in getting out of sight of it. Another said he had to go to the Civil war to get out of its sight. According to records of ownership of the land, Silas Marble, on September 14, 1770, bought for 200 pounds a farm of 130 acres consisting of lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, on West Pequioag Hill. The Sentinel Elm stands on what was lot number 7; the Rowe place on what was lot number 9. People from all sections have viewed it with wonder and delight, and photographs from every conceivable angle have been taken.

The old landmark is beginning to show its age but in spite of the fact that its branches are fewer and its bark has assumed a shaggy condition, it continues to have the same stately appearance and to attract people who chance to go through this section of the country. Historical legends have been associated with the tree and it is probably true that it served as a look-out against the approach of hostile Indians on more than one occasion, if actual combat did not occur within its view.

Long may it stand, an example as it were of the rugged character of North Orange and its citizenship.



Tully Mt. from North Orange, Mass.

"TULLY, BELOVED OF OLD" NEVER FADES FROM OUR  
PICTURE OF DREAMS

## North Orange, The Beautiful

By SARA E. RICH

Beautiful for situation  
Our town sits amid green hills fair,  
With her peaceful homes scattered about her,  
Gleaming white through the summer air  
So still, in the wavering sunshine.  
You may hear in the town below  
The whistle of mills, or of steam cars  
As they noisily come and go.  
Oh, you in the crowded city,  
In the sun's fierce, blistering heat  
Do you think of the hills of North Orange  
With their shadows, cool and sweet?

You can see the gleam as the morning sun  
On the spire of the old church shines.  
You watch the billowing hilltops  
Where the purple shadows lie  
Far away to where mighty Monadnock  
Stands 'gainst the northern sky.  
On the east the sparkle of waters  
And Tully beloved of old  
Keeping watch o'er the waking and sleeping—  
Oh,—you do not need to be told.  
Can you look on a fairer valley  
Than stretches away on the west  
When the setting sun in its glory  
Calls a weary world to its rest?  
And from Sunset Rock you'll remember  
The wonderful afterglow  
Filling the sky with its radiance  
In the evenings of long ago.





*"Where'er I go, what'er my lonely state,  
Yet grateful memory shall linger here."*

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